

COMFORT

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER

*The Key to Happiness and Success
in over a Million and a Quarter Homes*

DEVOTED TO ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND THE HOME CIRCLE.

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COMFORT

The Key to

Happiness and Success in over
A Million and a Quarter Homes.

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SUNSHINE, PEOPLE'S LITERARY COMPANION, and THE NATIONAL
FARMER & HOME MAGAZINE.

Devoted to
Art, Literature, Science, and the Home Circle.

Its Motto Is "Onward and Upward."

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Crumbs of Comfort

Prosperity makes few friends.
Common sense is not a common thing.
To despise money is to dethrone a king.
No one knows himself until he has suffered.
Let us make no vows, but let us act as if we had.
He who knows his incapacity knows something.
One must tell women only what one wants to be known.
Frequently the curses of men bring the blessings of heaven.
In separations, the one who departs is the sooner consoled.
Women are in the moral world what flowers are in the physical.
One seeks new friends only when too well known by old ones.
Life resembles a cup of clear water which becomes muddy as we drink it.
Old age is a tyrant that forbids the pleasures of youth on the pain of death.
Often the world discovers a man's worth only when it has nearly destroyed him.
The most completely lost of all days is the one on which we have not laughed.
Marriage is a lottery in which men stake their liberty, and women their happiness.
A beautiful woman with the qualities of a noble man is the most perfect thing in nature.
The future of society is in the hands of the mothers. If the world was lost through woman, she alone can save it.
Society is composed of two great classes, those who have more dinners than appetite and those who have more appetite than dinners.

The Fortune Teller

By Violet Knapp

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTER.

The scene of this story is laid in Eastport, Maine, where Marian Ford, a young, unsophisticated girl is warned by her cousin, Mrs. Rebecca Ford, with whom she lives, not to go to the fortune teller, Marian, who secretes the card giving his address. Miss Evans, whose home is in Boston, comes to Eastport to spend the summer at the Inn, a large summer hotel. Mr. Reeves, an English author, engages lodging at Mrs. Rebecca Ford's for the summer. The following morning Marian puts the finishing touches to the spare room, then steals out on the sly to consult the fortune teller. Turning down a side street she unexpectedly meets Timothy Dwight to whom she is engaged. He is glad to see her, and wants to call that night. Marian tells him they are to have company. With a burst look he bids her good morning, and she passes on to an old shingled house, where she meets "Professor" Tyndall, the fortune teller, who impresses her with the idea that she is fated for a higher station in life, and advises her to use the gifts with which she has been endowed. "The summer is to be an eventful one," he says, "and a young man, fair in complexion is to be a powerful factor in her life, and a dark man will endeavor to separate them." Hurrying home she concludes that Tim is the one to interfere and she will encourage him and her mother. As she goes in the front door she meets the new roomer, a man "young and fair," and she plans a brilliant future. Mr. Reeves soon gains a friendly and almost intimate footing with the Fords, whose quaint ways interest him. Tim makes two or three attempts to call. Rebecca Ford, noticing Timothy's absence from the house, inquires the cause. Marian feigns indifference and Rebecca declares they were as good as engaged. Marian denies it, he is too ordinary. This rouses Rebecca Ford's indignation, and if Marian has any fool notions about Mr. Reeves, she'll ship him at once. During their conversation Mr. Reeves appears and invites Rebecca and Marian to go on a sailing party. Going to the boat Mr. Reeves tells Marian that he has become interested in an Eastport young man, and will arrange to have him take a course in draughting, and architecture at the Boston School of Technology. She thinks he is a fortunate boy and asks if it is Lemuel Lee? He does not know him. On the sail Miss Evans monopolizes the most of Marian's time, and realizes her strange behavior, and wonders if she is interested in Mr. Reeves. On their return Mr. Reeves goes to the Inn to meet a friend, and when Marian reaches home she finds Timothy waiting there. He asks Marian to let it seem like old times. Tim detects her effort to imitate Mr. Reeves' English accent, and begs her to stop her foolishness. "He has said quite enough," she declares, and she must be firm and assert her freedom. "Marian," is all he says, and she making no answer he walks away. The Inn is to close Labor day, and the day following Mr. Reeves is to go to Boston. The night before Timothy calls and invites Marian to walk with him. "Will she ever marry him?" She is not ready, she must travel, and broaden, she would not be satisfied to settle in Eastport. He is to leave Eastport, and he wants their relation understood. She hopes he will do well but shows no interest in his future work, and Tim leaves. Labor day Mr. Reeves attends to the packing of his things. Marian, wandering from room to room gives Mrs. Ford the hypo, and she begs her to sit down. Marian realizes that Mr. Reeves has no intention to take her. Timothy is to enter the Boston School of Technology and Mr. Reeves plans to have him also go to England and see the fine old cathedrals and gothic architecture.

CHAPTER II.

IT was some time before Mr. Reeves came back to the hotel and when he did they all three walked back home together. Mr. Reeves said as they neared the house, "I received a letter today which has made me very happy and I want to share my good fortune with you. The dearest little lady in the world is free at last to marry me this coming November, and I am going to skip Boston and travel home just about as fast as the *Teutonia* will carry me. There have been serious complications which prevented our marriage before this, but now they have all been swept away and I think I am the happiest Englishman who ever trod your New England soil. Won't you congratulate me?"

Rebecca extended her hand and said with great feeling, "I congratulate her, sir with all my

heart, and I feel sure since you chose her she must be all right, so you have my best wishes and hopes. Who is she? Do tell us a little more about her?"

Marian could not speak, she could only repeat dully to herself, "It is all ended. It is all ended." "Why, I may as well tell you that Reeves is an assumed name. I am pretty well known in the world of letters and newspaperdom, and didn't want it to get out that I was here, for I would have been hounded by reporters and publishers all summer."

Rebecca drew herself up with pride. Was she, plain Rebecca Ford walking with a celebrity? Had she lodged one all summer? Had she given him good enough bed linen? Wouldn't it have been better to have given him her best towels instead of her second-best, for Rebecca's linen was classified in her mind as common, every-day, second-best and best. Her companion continued: "I am the son of Sir Mortimer Grex, the second son you know, and my name is Reginald Fotheringay Grex."

Rebecca and Marian gasped. Even they in quiet Eastport were familiar with the name of the brilliant young writer who had taken the English speaking world by storm during the last two years.

"Sir Reginald Fotheringay Grex," stammered Rebecca. "For the land's sakes!" It was the only exclamation she could think of.

"No, not Sir Reginald Grex. I am plain Mr. Grex, or Honorable I am called on state occasions. Well to get to the more important part, my fiancée is Lady Gwendolen—" Marian nearly exclaimed aloud "Lady Gwendolen's Mad Escapade,"—"Murray," went on Mr. Reeves calmly. "She is the daughter of the Earl of Dunmister and Lady-in-waiting to her Majesty, Queen Alexandra, God bless her," he added respectfully. His two companions were beyond words, and as they had now reached the porch of the house Marian held out her hand and said thickly:

"I want to—to congratulate you too. I—er I think it must be grand to be engaged," she paused for the right word, "to the right one—the suitable one. She must be lovely, I know." Mr. Reeves felt a big tear splash on his hand, and for the first time fully realized what hopes the girl might have been building.

"Yes, above all things, Miss Marian, a marriage to be happy must be a suitable one. It is all very well in fairy tales for the king to marry the beggar maid or for the Royal Princess to select the groom who cares for her horses to bestow her affections upon. Or even where there is no such disparity as these, I am a believer that for two people to be happy they must have kindred tastes and a similar bringing-up. That is the trouble with so many of the Anglo-American marriages. The brides are not accustomed to the arduous court life which is very exacting, and unaccustomed to English standards and ways of doing things and more often than not they are wretched instead of happy. Fame and titles and money do not constitute happiness. Lady Gwendolen and I had all those but we have been very very unhappy. But all that is changed now, and we are satisfied. We are very very congenial and suited to one another in every way, the same as you and Tim are," but Marian escaped into the friendly shelter of the house without replying. Sobs shook her frame and tears of mortification stormed down her cheeks as she realized what a foolish girl she had been all summer and in consequence what a dreary prospect she had for the winter, and in fact throughout her life, if no change for the better took place. To live always on Cousin Rebecca's bounty had its drawbacks and she determined, as she lay awake that night thinking things over more calmly, to ask Miss Evans' advice, instead of another "Psychic Expert."

The next morning Mr. Reeves took his departure early and Mrs. Ford decided not to accompany him to the railroad station as she had planned to do, inasmuch as Marian flatly refused to go, fearing Tim would take that same train. Miss Evans was to stay one more day informally with Mr. and Mrs. Plunkett so Marian would have a talk with her that evening. This was easily arranged, with the result that Miss Evans

sent her a package of books and magazines upon her return home in which Marian literally buried herself. She studied night and day, every spare moment, and Miss Evans assured her in her weekly letters that she was doing well, and that by another year she could undoubtedly secure a certain country school which needed a teacher, and which from its proximity to Eastport would enable Marian to come home every Friday night to stay with Rebecca. With this goal in view the girl studied and worked assiduously throughout the winter. They had one letter from Mr. Grex, also the announcement of his marriage together with London papers containing an account of the wedding. Marian was appalled at the list of titled guests and mentally scoured herself for being such a little goose as to suppose he was going to marry her, an ignorant, country girl who had never been twenty miles from home.

Early in April came an invitation from Mrs. Evans to come and spend a week with her in Boston. She also sent a round-trip ticket, promising to ask Mrs. Ford to come at some future time. Marian was as delighted as she was surprised, and packed her bag with her simple belongings and set out for Boston. As she neared the city she wondered in which house Tim lived. Was it this or that? She found herself thinking much more of the possibility of seeing him than of the certainty of seeing the sights of "The Hub." Miss Evans met her at the Back Bay Station with a smart electric runabout which she drove herself, and Marian was almost lost in wonder at all she saw during the short ride to Miss Evans' home on Marlborough street.

"Those buildings you see in the distance are some of the Tech Buildings," said her hostess as they crossed Boylston street. Marian looked at them eagerly and Miss Evans smiled inwardly at this evidence of her interest. "It will all come out right," she concluded, "if Tim does his part."

The next day proved to be stormy so the two friends stayed indoors and visited together, Miss Evans saying she had heard twice from Mr. Grex, and that she expected to stop over a week-end with them in July when she was to be in London.

"Then you are not coming to Eastport this summer? Oh, Miss Evans!" and the girl's eyes filled with tears. "I shall almost dread the summer. Everything will be so different this year."

"I expect August. I am to sail the tenth of the last of August. I am to sail the tenth of June, and return in time to make a short stay in Eastport. Mr. Plunkett couldn't run the Inn a whole season without me, you know," and she laughed merrily. The following day was all that could be desired, the sun shining radiantly after the rain and Miss Evans said the parks and squares would be in their glory. Accordingly after lunch the two set out in their automobile for a sight-seeing tour. Miss Evans drove down town first, past the Tech buildings, then came back up Huntington Avenue and Copley Square, past the Museum of Fine Arts, the Public Library ("which we will visit tomorrow," said the hostess), on by Mechanic's building, the magnificent Christian Science Church ("one of the sights of Boston," explained Miss Evans, "and one we will have a closer inspection of later"), up by the New England Conservatory of Music, Symphony Hall, and the new Opera House, then out through the Fens to Brookline.

"Oh, it is all so beautiful," sighed Marian in rapture. "I don't wonder you love Boston, and that—that Tim likes it too. His mother says he is perfectly happy here," and there was a little break in her voice. It was the first time she had voluntarily spoken of him, and Miss Evans answered in a matter-of-fact way:

"Yes, Mr. Dwight is getting on famously. He goes out a good deal too, I mean socially," she added. "Clark Robeson, one of the students whom I know well assures me he is quite a beau." Marian made no reply, and her companion soon changed the subject. She could not help wondering if she were not to see him during her stay but would not ask, and Miss Evans did not mention it. That evening the two went to the theater and saw one of Shakespeare's plays and Miss Evans said as they came out:

"Tomorrow I am going to take you to see something lighter, in the afternoon, something more cheerful and helpful than this tragedy was. I have asked two lovely girls to go with us, and in the morning we will visit the Library, the Christian Science Church, the Art Museum and if we have time will run down for a little shopping. The days are going by so quickly."

"Yes," sighed Marian, "my week will soon be up, and then all aboard for Eastport!" "and no sight of Tim," she thought to herself. The matinee proved to be "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," and Marian thoroughly enjoyed it and was much helped by the lesson it taught. She and Miss Evans talked it over quietly that evening by the open fire, for the spring evenings were chilly. "Do you think, Miss Evans, that we all have a new tomorrow, I mean a tomorrow that has no connection with yesterday or today?"

"Yes, indeed, dear child. Every tomorrow holds nothing but good if we sever it from the past and do the way 'Glad' did in the play. 'I'm going to be taken care of Now.'"

"It is worth trying, isn't it Miss Evans?" "Yes, it is well worth while. Let us try it. Marian. Put the past out of our thoughts entirely, and live in touch with this great power for good, and turn to it and expect it to help us as Glad did. Who knows? Wonderful things might happen."

Marian went to bed in a more peaceful frame of mind that night than she had had for some time, and felt more certain that her happiness was not irrevocably lost.

The next night was Thursday and the two went to a college play given in one of the halls on Huntington Ave. Miss Evans did not tell her that it was a play given by Tech students, so Marian was quite unprepared to see Tim, her own Tim, appear as one of the leading characters. Marian watched him and listened to him with shining eyes and glowing cheeks. "He is as good as those real actors we saw yesterday," she whispered to Miss Evans, adding to herself, "far better than the ones who played Shakespeare with their struts and funny talk." At the close of the second act Miss Evans motioned to an usher and asked him to tell Mr. Dwight that two friends were in the audience who would like to see him and congratulate him, if he were at liberty, giving their seat numbers. The boy soon returned saying Mr. Dwight regretted that he would be unable to see them until after the play, as he was making up for the next act. So Marian waited with what patience she could for the play to be over. When it was concluded and the curtain went down for the last time on the principal actors bowing their thanks for the storm of applause, Miss Evans and Marian waited quietly in their places for Tim to find them. It seemed an hour to Marian before she saw him coming down the aisle surrounded by a bevy of laughing girls, real Boston girls, who were chatting and bantering to the best of their ability; and she, foolish, little frightened Marian Ford before! scorned him but a few short months before! "That fortune-teller robbed me of my reason, I guess," she thought; but by this time the gay group had reached them and she was shaking hands with Tim and being introduced to "Miss Van Rensselaer, Miss Dodge, Miss Lorimer, Miss Hereford and Miss Cable." Marian shrank back a little at this wholesale introduction, but Miss Evans seemed in no hurry, and at length all the girls were gone except Miss Van Rensselaer.

"Did you ride, Miss Evans?" asked Tim in a voice which had lost its country accent and "really sounds like a Bostonian," thought Marian. "No, we walked from home. It is such a short distance and the pleasant evening attracted us to a stroll, and we are going to walk back." "Then we can all walk along together," said Tim. He looked very handsome in evening clothes and Marian was torn between admiration

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

An Inspiring Easter Sermon

BY UNCLE CHARLIE

Right from the heart of a big-hearted man brimming over with true Christian Charity, our Easter Sermon in April COMFORT will touch the hearts of all. It is not sectarian and will strengthen the faith and quicken the zeal of any Christian of any denomination. Whatever your creed, whichever your church, you will enjoy Uncle Charlie's Easter Sermon; it will give you a spiritual uplift.

CUPID'S APRIL FOOL A LEAP YEAR STORY

that tells in a charming style what a bright girl can do to bring her timid, diffident lover to propose to her; the cute little April fool trick that the heroine resorted to and how it worked. This smart, pretty leap year love story is only one of the many interesting features of

APRIL COMFORT

which will also tell you things about the Spring Fashions that every woman wants to know and ought to know in order to make a neat and tidy appearance.

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SEE TO YOUR OWN SUBSCRIPTION and make sure not to miss April COMFORT yourself.

Look At The Figures

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March, 1912.

A Few Words by the Editor

THIS is COMFORT'S home number, and nothing concerns the home or the individual so much as health. It will be news to many of our readers to know that though we as a race are living longer (thanks to better housing, better food, the stamping out of epidemics, a better knowledge of sanitation, and the vast strides made in surgery and medicine, and a more scientific understanding of the nature and cause of disease and its proper treatment), we are, nevertheless, degenerating physically. Each succeeding American generation being poorer physically than the one preceding it.

Mayor Fitzgerald of Boston, recently published the results of three months' investigation of the children in the public schools of that city by Dr. William J. Gallivan, chief of the Division of Hygiene of the Boston Board of Health. Dr. Gallivan examined, with the help of other school physicians, 42,750 children, and only 14,957, or thirty-five per cent., proved to be physically normal, healthy children. No less than 27,795, or sixty-five per cent. of those examined, were found to be physically defective.

It is interesting to note the physical defects, which are as follows: Mentally deficient, 223; defective nasal breathing, 3,562; hypertrophied tonsils, 9,738; defective teeth, 19,518; defective palate, 86; cervical glands, 4,425; pulmonary disease, 456; cardiac (heart) disease, 1,129; nervous disease, 213; orthopedic defects, 521; skin disease, 3,500; rickets, 575; mal-nutrition, 1,611.

That is a startling record. Many will probably think that a child with bad teeth cannot rightly be called physically defective. This is a fallacy. Nothing contributes more to good health than sound teeth, and nothing menaces the health more than defective teeth. A man who wishes to enter the army must have good teeth, as otherwise his physical efficiency is impaired. The stomach has no teeth and cannot and will not do the work that should be properly done in the mouth by the teeth. Bad teeth mean dyspepsia, and dyspepsia leads to a train of physical ailments which soon undermine the health.

What is true of the Boston school children is probably true of the school children in other cities all over the United States, and true, probably, though in a lesser degree of the children attending our country schools.

William Muldoon, who for years has been restoring the physically wrecked bodies of thousands of the best known men in this country to health and strength, states that the American race is degenerating with a rapidity that is frightful.

"Money hogs and money madness are the twin causes of decay," he says. "The corroding influence of this greed for wealth has been felt in every walk of life. Take the millionaires who achieve wealth—I get them—lots of them—worn out, dissi-

pated, crazed by their perpetual struggle for more money. They are burnt out, body and soul, and their children are worse.

The younger generation loses its vitality, its ambitions, its morals and its reputations. They are no good to themselves and no good to anyone else. And all this is the result of too much money.

"It is impossible to see where this degeneracy will stop. Every year it gets worse, and men are driving themselves at a greater pace. Then comes the inevitable collapse. Nearly all my patients are neurasthenics, their nerves ragged, their digestion gone, and sufferers from insomnia.

"It is the alarming increase of degeneration, mental and physical, with which we must battle. Harry Thaw is a good example of the product of the present age. It would be a crime to release him from Matteawan. Henry Clay Beattie was another. His vicious instincts were with him all through his life, and he could not be cured.

"Men like these and like Albert Wolter should not be sympathized with. They are not actuated by sudden temper. They are vicious degenerates. This is the class no treatment will cure."

Dr. H. B. Savage of the New York Normal School of Physical Education, is quite in accord with Muldoon in his diagnosis of American physical degeneracy. Dr. Savage is of the opinion that physical decadence is not confined to the prosperous and more favored class alone, but is fully persuaded that it affects all classes. Dr. Savage attributes our physical decadence to our present educational system, which overcrowds the minds of the young, overloading their tender and immature brain cells with abstract knowledge. It has now become a well-recognized fact among scientific men and educators generally, that physical training should take precedence of mental training and book learning. We have got the cart before the horse. We are overburdening the mind and letting the body run to seed. Children have to struggle with books and subjects which do not interest them, and acquire knowledge of things which too often do not materially benefit them, and which have little or no bearing on their every-day life. Traces of the deadly cigarette, which is doing more than any other one thing outside of alcohol to degenerate the race physically and mentally, can be seen on the hands and lips of multitudes of our school children. But in what school pray do they make known to the children, the deadly and demoralizing effects of this body and soul-destroying invention of the devil?

Children must learn by doing. A school in La Porte, Indiana, has a system which will correct physical degeneracy, a system which eventually, no doubt, will be adopted wherever conditions render its adoption possible. The children go to school for half a day for book study, the other half day is de-

voted to various lines of outdoor work; farming and gardening building houses, roadways, barns, bridges, sewers and taking care of live stock, etc. This sort of training will make boys mentally and physically sound, and useful producing citizens to boot.

In England, physical deterioration has reached such an alarming state that sixty per cent. of the population from which the rank and file of the British Army is drawn, are physically unequal to the demands of army life, even in times of peace, and thirty per cent. of the population of English cities, are not as well fed as working animals usually are. Physical degeneration has been hastened by the fact that (and here I quote the New York Herald), "We have been doing all we can to make it so very expensive for mankind to live, the better classes shrink from marriage, and when they do wed, they restrict the number of their children. On the other hand, the unfit goes on begetting unfit."

The unequal distribution of wealth is another cause of physical degeneracy. Wealth and poverty are both slaying their thousands and physically degenerating those they do not slay. The 1900 census shows that the average yearly earnings of the five million odd persons employed in manufacturing, was but \$437.96 each. This was nearly seven dollars less than the annual wage shown by the 1890 census. It is thus apparent that the richer we get nationally, the poorer we get individually. National physical degeneracy must be halted. We must have a National Board of Health and Education, under Federal control.

Education must be conducted along sane and sensible lines, so that body and brain may both be developed and each brought to the highest standard of efficiency. Country life must be made more attractive, and the migration of country folks to the cities discouraged. Alcohol and cigarettes must be fought and conquered; the marriage of weaklings and unhealthy couples must, and will be forbidden by law. Those who create the wealth of the land, must get a fair share of the wealth they produce, for it stands to reason that no man can remain healthy and bring up a family of healthy children on a dog wage of but a little over a dollar a day. Parents can do much towards checking physical decadence by seeing their children get (whenever wages permit) plenty of nourishing food, fresh air and ample exercise. Study hygiene, the care of the body; live rationally; avoid excesses; keep out of the big cities; learn to breathe properly, and to sit and stand properly; and above all, learn to think properly; for by right thinking, and right living, we can stop both physical and national decadence.

Comfort's Editor.

KEEP UP THE FIGHT FOR THE PARCELS POST

THE big fight is waxing hot and the great army of COMFORT readers is doing its duty nobly.

I am more than pleased with your hearty response to my appeal for volunteers which appeared in January COMFORT.

I am still receiving a stack of letters every day from enthusiastic subscribers requesting me to send them the Parcels Post petitions and pledging me their active efforts in support of the cause.

You are doing splendid work and the petitions which you are sending to Washington are beginning to take effect on members of Congress, as I told you they would.

Keep it up; keep a flood of petitions pouring in to your Congressmen and Senators at Washington just as long as Congress is in session. Write personal letters to them and tell them plainly what you expect of them; tell them that you expect them to vote and to work for the Sulzer Parcels Post Bill; tell them that bill, the Sulzer bill, just as it is and without any change is what you want and what you expect them to give you. Tell them you want the real Parcels Post as good, as convenient, as efficient and as cheap as the best that any country has, and that you will not accept any substitute, nor stand for any compromise with the express companies.

Let them know that you are watching them. Remind them that there is an election coming next November and let them understand that you will remember their action on the Parcels Post bill when you come to vote.

Don't be afraid of them. Remember that they are your servants and not your masters. You made them; you clothed them with the power they have under the law and the Constitution; you chose them as your representatives to go to Washington to do your bidding, and you can unmake them next November if they disregard your wishes. They will be round next fall asking you for your votes to send them to Washington for another two years. If they betray your confidence, if they show themselves to be the servants of the express companies and railroads, tell them to go hire out to their masters when election day comes, and you take pains to fill their places with men that you can trust to serve the people.

Get your friends and neighbors also to write them in the same way, and keep the petitions going too; but personal letters from you and your friends will count heavily with your Senators and Representatives; the petitions first, then follow up with personal letters.

It all depends on you and on your action. You can get the Parcels Post at this present session of Congress if you all take hold and work for it as I am urging you to do.

Senator Gardner's Advice

Maine has the distinction of being almost the only state that is represented in the U. S. Senate by a farmer. Hon. Obadiah Gardner, recently appointed U. S. Senator from Maine, is a farmer and for a number of years was Master of the Maine State Grange.

Senator Gardner spoke at a meeting of the New York State Grange on February 7, and in the course of his remarks he expressed his views on the Parcels Post as follows:

"I would impress you all that if you want any legislation on Parcels Post from the present Congress, and I think there is a very good outlook for it, write to your Representatives. You do not realize how much it means if you send a letter to your Representative asking for the measure. You will surely get a

Your Petitions That Are Pouring Into Washington are Having an Effect on Congress

You Will Surely Get the Parcels Post if You Work for It, Says Senator Gardner of Maine

rudimentary Parcels Post law from this Congress if you work for it. I tried an experiment to show the unjust system now in force and found that it cost me 76 cents more to send 11 pounds of matter six miles from my home in Maine to a neighboring town of South Hope and I had to make three packages, than it did to send the 11 pounds in one package thousands of miles to Japan. I do not think it at all inconsistent to ask the government of the United States to give us as good service as it does the Japanese."

There are three classes of Senators and Representatives. One class, like Senator Gardner, is heartily in favor of the Parcels Post and is working for it; such men don't need any bracing up, but they like to have the petitions and letters from their constituents because it is a help to them in fighting the battle in Congress. Another class doesn't care anything about the Parcels Post, and such Congressmen need the petitions and letters to wake them up and bring them to a realizing sense of what is expected and required of them. The third class is composed of men who are strongly opposed and will openly or secretly do all they can to kill the Parcels Post bill, and if they find that impossible they will try to amend and alter it so as to destroy its usefulness. These gentlemen need to have the petitions and letters put up to them in the very strongest form and lots of them.

Now and then someone writes me that he does not know the name of his Congressman and asks me to tell him. I can easily find out the names of all the Congressmen from any state, but I have no means of knowing which particular Congressman comes from your district. Anyone who does not know the name of his Congressman or who his Senators are can easily find out by asking his Postmaster.

Any COMFORT reader, man or woman, who has not circulated a Parcels Post petition and sent it to Congress should do so at once. I will furnish a set of these printed petition blanks with full instructions to all who write for them enclosing a two cent stamp to pay postage.

It is proper that women as well as men should sign these petitions, as all are equally interested. Many women are doing splendid work in circulating these petitions.

Express Companies Exposed

The chief opposition to the Parcels Post naturally comes from, or is instigated by the great monopolistic express companies that take a hundred and fifty million dollars a year out of the pockets of the American people and give them wretchedly inadequate service at extortionately high rates. But we think we have the express companies on the run in this fight. In fact they have their hands full trying to defend themselves in another fight which happens to be on very opportunely just at this time.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is giving them a pretty thorough investigation and at a hearing in Washington on the first day of February some astonishing facts were brought to light.

The evidence before the Commission showed: That express rates are far higher in the United States than in foreign countries.

Special Examiner Ryan testified that up to thirty miles the rates in the United States range on a package of fifteen pounds from thirty to thirty-five cents. In France the rate on a similar package for a similar distance is nineteen cents, eight cents in Germany and twelve cents in Great Britain. On distances of from twenty-five to fifty miles in the United States the rates range from thirty to fifty-five cents, while in Germany on a fifteen pound package for these distances the rate is ten cents, in France nineteen cents and in Great Britain twenty-two cents.

High as their regular rates are it also appeared that the express companies were guilty of frequently overcharging above the regular rates, and Mr. Ryan's examination of one month's business of the Adams Express Company showed that \$67,000 in overcharges were turned into the company's treasury. The lawyer for the company claimed that these overcharges were unintentional and that four-fifths of this amount was refunded to the customers. The Adams was not the only express company whose business showed an enormous number and aggregate amount of overcharges. Very many unlawful undercharges were also proved.

Threatened with Prosecution

When the proof of these overcharges taken from the books of the companies had been presented Commissioner Lane, who presided at the hearing, made the following announcement to the representatives of the express companies:

"It has been conclusively shown that your express rates are unintelligible even to your own agents, and the commission is going to prosecute you unless there is a decided change. If we would undertake to prosecute every overcharge we would bankrupt and put out of business every express company in the United States. I will warrant that if there is one letter of protest against overcharges filed with the commission there are 10,000. You have got to put in some system by which our body can tell what the rates are. I have had three rates quoted to me by the same agent on the same package on the same day."

To the claim of the lawyer for the Adams Express Company that the overcharges and undercharges were not intentional, Commissioner Lane replied: "That would be something for a grand jury to determine."

Is it not about time for the government to deliver us all from such tyranny and oppression of the express companies in the only effective way by establishing the Parcels Post in the United States the same as all other civilized countries have it?

How generally the people favor this proposition is shown by the fact that in all the vast pile of letters which I have received on this subject from COMFORT readers since my January editorial, only two express any objection to the Parcels Post. One of these writers opposes the Parcels Post because he thinks it too socialistic and fears the expense to the government will be too great. In April COMFORT I will answer these objections and others that the express companies put up.

I have a lot more interesting things about the Parcels Post to tell you in April COMFORT, among them the rates charged by the Parcels Post in European countries.

I enjoy the interesting letters which you write me giving your views on this subject and describing your homes, your families and your business, and I thank you all for your kindness and for your patriotic support in this great battle for the People's Rights.

W. H. GANNETT.

Easily Made, Convenient and Comfortable Furniture for Home-Loving People

Copyright, 1912, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Inc.

Plant Waterer

You have seen many tabourets and plant stands but I doubt if you ever saw one like this. It is an automatic waterer and will tend your favorite plant when you are away or when you are at home and neglect it. Let us see how it is made. Fig. 2 tells the story more clearly than I can. Oak pieces two inches wide and not quite an inch thick are used.



Screw them together as shown with long, brass round-headed screws. On the top place the flower-pot or the jardiniere containing the same. Under this put a tank of water. It is finished with stain on the outside to blend with the color of the wood. Note that in Fig. 1 a lamp-wick resting in the water passes up and over the side of the flower-pot. This wick, by virtue of capillary attraction, will conduct the water up and into the soil around the roots, and it will continue to do so as long as there is any water in the tank. Now when you want to go on a visit you need not worry about the welfare of your pet fern or rubber plant; simply fill the tank with water and you can rest content for two or three weeks. You do not have to make a special stand to get the benefit of the idea. Place any vessel of water near by and run a wick from it to the flower.

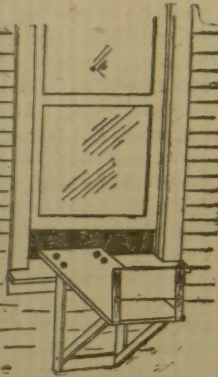
Fig. 1

Fig. 2

ALWAYS WORKING.

Window Scaffold

Window washing must be done and if there is an upper story it becomes a dangerous job, especially to a person who is getting a little advanced in years. The picture shows a little scaffold which any handy person can make out of a few scrap pieces of lumber. First get a sound board three feet long and ten inches wide and nail the truss made of strips under it. Two of the strips are straight up and down so they will lay flat against the house, the others are braces, put in at a slant. Through the holes shown in the fore end of the scaffold pegs are placed, which prevents it from falling out. You may have a row of these holes to fit the different windows. The plan is simple and serviceable enough to be utilized by any reader of COMFORT.



IT INSURES SAFETY.

Fuel Box

In the country where coal and wood is burned one usually finds an ugly box used as a receptacle. Not only this but the box is so heavy and hard to move that cleaning around it is almost impossible. The fuel box shown in the accompanying sketch is not exactly a thing of beauty but it is a big improvement over the common kind. In the first place it has wheels under it and may be rolled out easily. The wheels are round disks of wood fastened with a bolt through a hole in the center to the heavy cleat that is nailed to the bottom. Four common bed casters inserted into holes in the corners could be even better. The fore end of the box is put in slantwise so that the bottom projects five inches out further than the end of it. This gives you a little leeway in shoveling out coal and none need be spilled on the floor. The top of the box is hinged as shown in Fig. 2. It extends over the sides two inches and may be easily raised to remove wood or replenish with fuel. Taken all in all I think it is a design that will add to the appearance of your home and at the same time lessen your labors a little.

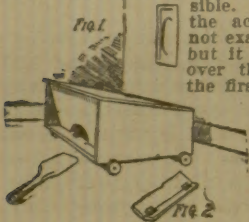
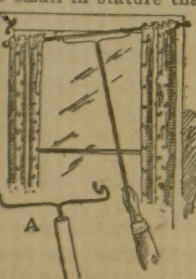


Fig. 2

IT LESSENS LABOR.

Curtain Tool

The handling of lace curtains is a dreaded task indeed. Most women are so small in stature that they cannot reach the hooks even when standing on a chair, with the result that a strain from overreaching is liable to occur. The wire device shown here will let you out of the usual difficulties. It may be fastened to the end of a broomstick by boring a hole in the latter or by laying it along the stick and wrapping it with fine wire. Use stiff wire for the lifter and bend it as shown in "A." ALL DANGER IS AVOIDED. If the hole you bore should happen to be too large drive in wooden wedges or pour in melted sealing wax to tighten it. This tool will also be found useful in taking down moulding hooks, pictures and arch poles and in putting up the same.

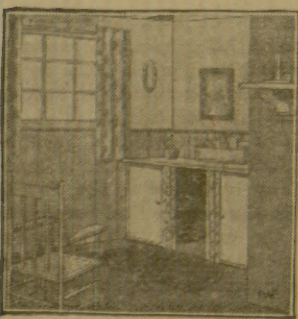


A

ALL DANGER IS AVOIDED.

Chimney Corner

What to do with the chimney corner is a problem of more or less magnitude to every housewife. In this sketch I have tried to hit on something that will relieve some of the ugliness of the corner and at the same time be of so simple a nature that everyone will be capable of using it. In brief it consists of a little desk with doors on each side and a space underneath for the feet. The central space is curtained off. Without any changes it may be used for dishes or foods, and the addition of the stationary box on top will make it possible to use it as a desk any time. The candle shelf is another step in the way of mitigating the unsightliness of the chimney. Little touches like this, here and there, mean a whole lot to the general appearance of a home although they seem



A COZY CORNER.

but trifles. The thrifty and tasteful home maker will find enough suggestions on this page to enable her to improve every corner of her domicile.

Wardrobe Stool

This little stool will be found of much use in the hall or on the rear porch. On the top is a compartment which may be used to contain the shoe-blackening utensils, while underneath it is a space for a pair of shoes. The back has a couple of hooks on which to hang clothes. The plan of the piece is clearly shown by the detail sketches. It can be made of pine and finished with mission stain to look like hardwood. If there is a young boy in the house you should have one of those stands and train him not only to make, but to use it for his wraps and shoes. By doing so you will save yourself much trouble occasioned by looking after stray caps and coats and at the same time do much toward making the youngster appreciate the value of system and method in his daily life. The size of each piece used is marked in the drawing.

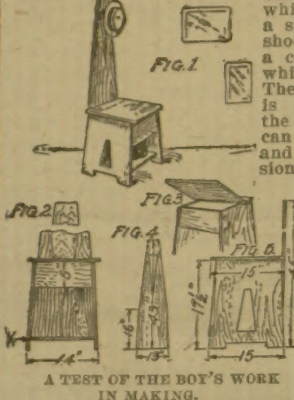


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Fig. 230

Fig. 2



This Department is conducted solely for the use of Comfort sisters, whereby they may give expression to their ideas relative to the home and home surroundings, and to all matters pertaining to themselves and families; as well as opening a way for personal correspondence between each other.

Our object is to extend a helping hand to Comfort subscribers; to become coworkers with all who seek friendship, assistance, encouragement or sympathy.

Any abuse of this privilege, such as inviting correspondence for the purpose of offering an article for sale, or undertaking to charge a sum of money for ideas, recipes or information mentioned in any letter appearing in this department, if reported, will result in the offender being denied the use of these columns.

Do not ask us to print letters requesting patterns, quilt pieces, etc., for the purpose of, or with the expectation of receiving the equivalent in return, for this is not an exchange column.

Do not ask us to publish letters requesting donations of money. Much as we sympathize with the suffering and unfortunate, it is impossible to do this as we would be flooded with similar requests.

Do not request souvenir postals unless you have complied with the conditions which entitles you to such a notice. See postal request notice in another column.

We cordially invite mothers and daughters of all ages to write to Comfort Sisters' Corner. Every letter will be carefully read and considered, and then the most helpful ones chosen for publication, whether the writer be an old or new subscriber.

Please write only on one side of the paper, and recipes on a separate sheet.

Always give your correct and full name and address, very plainly written; otherwise your letter will receive no attention.

Address all letters for this department to Mrs. WHEELER WILKINSON, Care, COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

THIS being COMFORT's annual Household Number, let us talk about the saving of steps in the home; that is, the science of motion, which means that we should so arrange our surroundings that the routine work can be done with the fewest and least tiring motions.

Motion science saves to the housewife hundreds of hours of fatigue, just as it saves to the manufacturer hundreds of dollars.

The great employers of labor pay high for the services of men who have made a scientific study of efficiency. For instance, the brick layer will make so many motions in laying a brick, and the efficiency expert will show how the same results may be obtained with one or more motions less, thus making a great saving to the employer and making a more valuable workman.

I want to illustrate a few personal experiences wherein I have saved time and energy, and last but not least, prevented falling into traps which are always being set in the badly managed household. Promiscuously laying down shears is one trap into which many a child has fallen and disfigured itself for life. Have one place for scissors and shears; on a hook high above the heads and hands of children, and on the inside of a closet door if possible.

My wood pile was on the opposite side of shed from the kitchen door, and I was walking the length of shed and back again every time I wanted some wood. Now I have my wood piled on the side next to kitchen, and only have to open door, take a step to the left and there is my wood. To be sure, it was only a little each time, but in a month or a year what a waste of strength.

In my kitchen, quite a distance from my cooking table, is a general pantry for cooking utensils and supplies. A few months ago it occurred to me that many steps would be saved by putting onto the wall over my cooking board a shallow closet, which I did and a treasure it is. It measures four by four feet and eight inches deep, and is fastened to the wall about eight inches above the table, leaving a space handy to set things, and besides does not narrow my table as it would did the closet come flush onto it.

My first shelf, made by bottom of closet, holds spices, soda, cream tartar, salt, etc. The second large glass jars with tin covers for tea, coffee, sugar, sifted flour, cereal, etc. The third for miscellaneous articles, and the fourth and last shelf is put high enough above the third to easily take my longest mixing spoon. The back of closet between these last two shelves is filled with hooks where egg beaters of different sizes, kitchen spoons with holes in end, potato masher, strainer, tunnel, etc., are hung.

The top shelf holds quart glass jars of rice, tapioca, cracked peas, powdered sugar, and package food such as gelatine and cornstarch.

Now when I cook, here it is all before me, and without taking a step to get it. I consider this my masterpiece of motion science, for I save hundreds of steps by not having to make separate trips to my general closet for one or two things at a time.

Sisters, don't go without one of these closets, even if you make it yourself and put up neat little curtains instead of doors. I forgot two very important things. Keep your measuring cups here and some sort of a holder for tea and table kitchen spoons.

Arrange your dish closets so that the dishes daily used will be most accessible; it saves a lot of reaching.

Keep your brooms, brushes, dustpan, tongs, stove raker and dumper and shovel hanging closely together as possible, for nine times out of ten you will want more than one of these things at a time.

Hunting for things is not only one of the greatest wastes of motion, but rapidly produces a wrinkled brow and many times angry thoughts and words. Have a proper and suitable place for everything, and when not in use, keep it there.

And while we talk about science of motion, it really is expressed in that homely old adage, "Work the head and save the heels."—Ed.

DEAR READERS AND FRIENDS:

I want to thank all who appreciated my little letter enough to remember the writer, received some very touching letters, full of sorrow, pain, want and appeal; they have touched my heart deeply. May God help us all.

A collection of bulbs, a gift from a florist has made me so glad. It brings sweetness, love, fragrance, and I do so love flowers—they call me "Flower Girl," and "Child of Nature," and our home you know is "Flower Cottage." There is nothing that helps to make life so beautiful, pure, good and noble as flowers; they are messengers from God to teach His children the better things of life. Home is not complete without them, life loses its charm without the best of gifts—beauty. No home is too poor or humble, too small or rich to have a few of God's many flowers; there are wild ones. He has scattered everywhere; take them and plant them at your door, water them with your sunshine and love, open the doors of your hearts to God's earth angels, and in watching and caring for them, your own soul will grow and expand in beauty, goodness and purity. You need a touch of beauty to call forth the beauty hidden away in your own heart. Nature is God's own work, the great dashing, foam-crested waves, breaking and washing on the century old rocks, grand noble trees, palaces in their green magnificent robes, ringing with the melodious cadences of singing birds, and thrilling the soul with the great, wondrous beauty that is found everywhere,

do we but look for it the babbling brooks, the grassy fields, blue, dreamy skies, sunsets and morning dawns that no artist yet has painted in all its grand splendor and beauty—simple you say—yes, but how grand! how wonderful! how beautiful! and home after all, the poorest, most humble place, may be made beautiful to those dwelling there; really it isn't the shell, or building part that counts for true beauty, neither is it what those walls protect, but the home spirit which is either marred or made by those who dwell therein. One of our poets has written—"the many make the household, but only one the home," and if home whether mansion or hovel is not blessed with the home fairy, it falls to be a true home. John Howard Payne has written the echo of millions of hearts in his grand old "Home Sweet Home."

Nowhere are skies so blue, and hearts so kind and true, as at home—home dear, dear blessed home, how fond are your memories, how sweet should your dear name be to all, how you would protect those who would leave so early to battle in the world without your protecting arm. Home is love, home is mother; home is father, home is all! There is nothing to be compared to what real, true home should be.

I conduct children's department in a dear little paper, published in one of the Eastern states, thus naturally I am brought to study children's nature, learn to know their likes and dislikes and that which appeals to their little hearts—and I have learned that small children will readily turn to anything good and beautiful. It is indeed a great heart-breaking pity that so many think the early years of life count for naught, they seem to me to have the greatest influence over the person's life, neither environment nor inheritance have the power to make or mar a life, though they may greatly help, yet some of the noblest, purest characters grew in uncongenial surroundings. Just as oft the purest flowers bloom on the most neglected spots, these characters are indeed sublime, for so strong has been their desire for purity, nobility and virtue, that they have forced their way through miserable surroundings, thus making them stronger, than those who have been coaxed, watched and brought up as a tender hothouse plant.

How many of you try to form little local sunshine clubs, or to do a bit of sunshine work for the Master your very own self? There are so many ways you can help to make the world better, and your life of more use. We were placed on earth to help to give our little—not to drift and reap thereof—but to give and live. Some of us never learn to live and the others live to learn; but while they learn they try to live! But after all perhaps we live to please ourselves; not live to please others!

With the last words of our beloved Whittier I close my letter to you—"Love, only love to the world." Let the words echo and recho from heart to heart and ring as long as there is life.

The kind words you've spoken,
When I was sad;
When my heart was nearly broken,
How my heart was, oh! so glad. —Original.

LENA CAROLYN AHLERS, Stronghurst, Flower Cottage, Ill.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I wish you all a prosperous and happy new year. I feel I must write and trust you will all do your best to push the Parcel Post through and give our publisher, Mr. Gannett, all the help we can. I am a little English woman and know from experience what a blessing the Parcel Post is to the many millions. I find that the people in America let Congress just do what they like. The people stand by read the papers and say: "Well, that bill has not passed;" and that's all. Now in England we will if we can have Congress pass what is going to help the children and the poor, and we do not give in and they know they must give in. So let them see that we all feel we must have it this year.

I have lived up in the mountains on our homestead six years and have only been to the valley once, and that was to see the doctor, and I get somewhat lonesome and look with joy to see my pet paper arrive—COMFORT. I have taken it fourteen years this May, and many happy hours I have spent in my log cabin reading the letters and stories, and let me thank Mrs. Wilkinson and the sisters for all the help I have had. A doctor charges one dollar a mile to come up here so one visit costs thirty dollars, and COMFORT has saved us many dollars. I think the new page in our paper, "Modern Farming," will prove a great help, for so many of the readers are farmers' wives. My husband, who always says: "I like COMFORT but I do not see a 'Brothers' Corner'." So now he is content and is the first to read it if he gets the chance.

My COMFORT is passed on to my beloved mother, who is living in England, and she says: "Send a birthday card with my love to poor Uncle Charlie." So I did so. I have started a bank and at the end of each week I drop in all the pennies I have and in that way I will be able to help to send in a little to get a chair. I feel so much for the dear ones. God is so good and we do not think of the many blessings we have. So sisters, one and all do let's try this new year to do something to bring sunshine to some poor one, do not put it away from your thoughts—just say: "I will."

With love and best wishes to you all. Some of you write. I will be truly pleased.

Mrs. BERT OWEN, Dudley, Jackson Co., Oregon.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I am an old subscriber and think it a fine paper. There is so much good reading besides the stories, which I choose to those in any other paper. I have just been reading some of the sisters' letters on Christianity. All of them are good, but, oh, how true are the words written by Mrs. Mary Durrin, who says she is not able to explain what it means to be a Christian. Indeed none of us can explain, for there's a very unexplainable and also, very essential work wrought in the heart by our Heavenly Father.

I, for one, certainly do believe in prayer in behalf of others. I know my husband was converted in answer to my prayers three years ago last August. And I also had a brother who for years I had prayed for. But sisters, a mere wish, or slight desire, will not reach the Throne of Grace. If we would have our prayers answered it must be a whole-hearted yearning for the one goal. It was not until my brother came near to the gates of death last spring, that we could bring ourselves to pray the prayer that would take the denial. Then God heard and answered. It grieves me to see so many trying to live religion who don't seem to realize that they must have religion before they can live it.

"Faith without works is dead" and we might add that works without the love of God in your heart will avail nothing in preparing you for the beautiful home in which we will all live when we are done with the cares and sins of this life. One may do many good and kind deeds and yet never become a Christian. Another thing I would like to say, if I'm not taking too much room, is that I think it very wrong to teach children to repeat memorized prayers. It teaches them formality and when a child is old enough to understand and feel the need of salvation through prayer, will God reward them for doing it? I think it makes it hard for them to understand what a real prayer of the heart is. I believe in giving them a more real idea of the meaning of prayer.

I could write much more but for fear of making my letter too long I will soon close, but first let me tell you that I have two sweet children, boy and girl. Gomer is five and one half and Murline is one year old. I don't believe in whipping, still I would use the rod sooner than let my children grow up unruly. As my husband and I both see alike about rearing children we haven't found such punishment necessary so far. My boy is lots of help.

I was twenty-seven years old the tenth of January. Wishing success to COMFORT and its many readers, I beg to be considered a COMFORT sister.

Mrs. ETHEL DAVIDSON (nee WHITAKER), Enid, R. 2, Okla.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

If there is room for a newcomer in the Sisters' Corner, with the kind editor's permission, I will come in and give you a page from the sunny side of shut-in life. Do you question if there is a bright side? We answer yes, for sometimes the sunshine of love from without penetrates every nook and corner, and by making good use of the blessings we still possess we hope that the same sunshine of love, though not always demonstrated just the same way, may beam in some degree from the shut-in's corner on those without. Otherwise life would seem dark.

For some time I have read with interest the sisters' columns, and have profited thereby; but was not aware of the work being done outside of their own immediate circle till recently. In a letter received from a very helpful shut-in of Oklahoma, a few days since, I was told of the letters of cheer sent to her by the COMFORT sisters, which she regretted not being able to answer. I at once thought of some of the many deeds of kindness that have brightened my own life, and that you might see a chance in the one narrated below to help some other shut-in.

All told (as the result of a fractured spine), I have spent over seventeen years of life off my feet, unable to walk, and most of the time confined entirely to my bed.

But here we will call a halt on that line of thought, for this is not to be a wall of woe. A few years since, my dear neighbors of the rural district wherein we had lived some time before and after my breakdown, got together and made me a beautiful "Friendship" quilt. As you know, nearly every woman has or has had a blue dress. Each neighbor "dug up" a piece of that blue dress of hers and pieced one block, placing her name in the center. When it was pieced, they met in one of the homes and joined, quilted and bound it in one day. Each one had prepared in advance a part of the delicious lunch that was served; a large box of which was sent to me; but I was not informed as to whose quilt was being quilted. The supreme surprise came later, when it was unfolded at my bedside, and presented to me as a Christmas present and token of love and esteem from my former neighbors and friends. Years had passed since I had lived among them, and words fail to describe my feelings on receipt of that beautiful token of loving remembrance.

The quilt is pieced of life and white. It seems to me that it would be difficult to find a quilt pattern truer to its name, than is the "Friendship." Each block seems to represent a group of friends linked together for each other's welfare, and at the same time extending the hand of friendship as far as possible in every direction beyond. How appropriate for a gift to an invalid friend!

When the wife and head of the home is down for years, quilts are among the things that are hard to keep in store. Usually, as the old supply gives out, comforts, blankets and counterpanes take their place, and yet how comfortable the quilt is in the summer, or as an additional light cover!

I also hope some poor sufferer may be benefited by this write-up, and that each helping hand may reap a full reward. May God bless your every effort dear sisters, to make the life of suffering humanity brighter. With best wishes to all, lovingly yours,

Mrs. N. S. NICHOLS, 428 N. 3rd St., Enid, Okla.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I come to you an old subscriber to tell you that my husband died last April. My home is very desolate. I came to Idaho for my health. I have seven children, four boys and three girls.

I would be thankful for kind letters and quilt pieces; all books for the children and myself. Your friend and son, one being an Angora named Fussy. We also have one hundred hens and my brother has twenty-five chickens, ten small guinea and thirteen old guinea.

We are about one mile from the ocean and it is very pleasant in summer. We are on high land and can see over the houses onto the ocean. The house we live in was one hundred years old last April.

Here are some of mother's ways of using old wraps and pieces of carpeting. Take the fronts and sleeves and back of the skirt and make into kitchen aprons. The pieces of carpeting make good foundations for holders or takers.

I am writing on a Thanksgiving day. I should like to hear from the sisters, especially from those of my own age.

MISS RUTH BRATTON, Adamsville, R. I.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have been a reader of dear old COMFORT for many years, and always enjoy reading the Sisters' Corner. Will give my description and you can imagine what I look like as you read. Am five feet, seven inches tall, dark brown curly hair, and brown eyes, am twenty-four years old and have been married five years to one of the best "Joe's" in the state. Have no children, except a stepdaughter, who is nearly as large as I. She will soon be seventeen. We are more like sisters than mother and daughter, as I indulge in games and fun as well as she. We are simply good comrades and as my big solemn Joe sometimes tells me we are both like two children. "Hubby" you see is wondrous wise as he is fifteen years my senior.

I have tried to teach the daughter in the right way, taking as guidance my own kind mother's teaching. I got discouraged at times, as we live on the farm and have so much work to do. But I am most always looking for the bright side of everything.

"Hubby" often says nothing troubles me; but sometimes things do vex and hurt me but I turn it off with a laugh or song.

Did any of the sisters ever try using a hot bran poultice for pain of any kind? Is also good to put on boils to draw. My niece, a small girl of twelve, was visiting us last winter. She had frozen her heels; they were gathering, and we were afraid of blood poisoning, as they swelled and there were purple streaks to her knees. She suffered intensely. We made the hot bran poultice by scalding with hot water, and applied, and by morning they had broken. Then take a piece of ice and punch a hole, and melt a tablespoon of pure hog lard and pour in the ice and let cool. It can then be used as a salve. I put it on her feet and in a week she was back in school and has had no trouble with them since. Salve can also be used on any sore with good results. Bran poultice is very easing to rheumatism or neuralgia pain.

How many of the sisters try hanging colored clothes around the stove, instead of going out in the wind and cold, then while you clean up the tubs, boiler and floor (by a little tugging a few times) your clothes will be ready to fold. Even if you have them doubled, some will dry and then if not too tired you can iron.

I have been reading COMFORT for thirteen years. Love and good wishes, your sister,

Mrs. JOE JOHNSON, Bannock, K. R. 2, W. Va.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:

I am not a new subscriber but have never written to the Sisters' Corner before.

I have been married about three years and have one baby girl sixteen months old. We came from So. Dakota three years ago and found it very different here than what we expected.

The climate here is rather nice. Not much cold weather but gets pretty hot in the summer and considerable wind and when the wind does blow the dust rolls up in clouds and gets into everything. We have twenty acres of dry land but expect to pump water on to it next year. Without water it isn't good for much.

I saw in the last paper how handy one woman had her kitchen and I think mine is ahead of hers. Our whole house is only sixteen by twenty-four feet and is divided so that the kitchen and bedroom are each eight by twelve feet. I have my kitchen table (with drawers) in the corner with nails above for hanging my cooking utensils on and above that a shelf for pans, crocks, sugar and other things. Next to that (and the same height) is the oil stove which I use altogether, excepting for washing and baking. Next to that is the range; these things taking up one side of the kitchen with the exception of a foot underneath the chimney in the corner, where we have fixed a dumb waiter. It has four shelves with a small bin in the bottom for potatoes, and works with a pulley from above.

I only have to go down in the cellar about once a week to replenish things. It saves so much work in running up and down the steps.

Besides these I have a cupboard, washstand and small shelf for the water pail. On the floor is linoleum which makes it very easy to keep clean. We have the dining table in the other room and it makes us plenty of room in our kitchen, although we thought it would be small when we built here.

Well I think I have taken up enough time and space so will close and leave room for others.

Mrs. R. L. LATHROP, Touchet, Wash.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

I have long wanted to step in for a little chat, but could not quite get up my courage.

Yesterday I read a letter from a sister in the corner whose name is the same as mine, and from Missouri too. I am sure there are a great many taking COMFORT in these parts.

I want to tell you about the premiums I have received for getting subscribers. I secured ten subscribers in about two hours, then I got two more later on and now I have the knives and forks in the Narcissus assortment offered by COMFORT. I was delightfully surprised at their beauty, they look so nice on the table, too. Then I secured two more subscribers and won Uncle Charlie's Song Book, and oh, we are subscription blank ready to mail and I have chosen an initial dinner set for a premium. I guess you are wondering by this time if I get anything else done, so I will tell you. I have all my work to do. We live on our farm. My husband is clerking in a drug-store at present, one and three quarters miles from home. I have four little daughters. The eldest is only seven, and my baby is nine months old, so you see I have my hands full. I do all my own sewing; also make husband's overalls and shirts to wear when working on the farm, as they last longer than ready-made garments. For a pattern I used a pair of ready-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.)

Why is the soda cracker today such a universal food?

People ate soda crackers in the old days, it is true—but they bought them from a barrel or box and took them home in a paper bag, their crispness and flavor all gone.

Uneda Biscuit—soda crackers better than any ever made before—made in the greatest bakeries in the world—baked to perfection—packed to perfection—kept to perfection until you take them, oven-fresh and crisp, from their protecting package.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

IN WOLF'S CLOTHING

Or, At Great Sacrifice

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

A stormy evening—a deep valley between high hills. A man in stooping position examines the ground and slips into his pockets fragments that he picks up with a trowel. He hastily conceals himself as Nora Ryall, barely seventeen, goes down the valley and to the tumble-down stable, where she cares for her pony. Entering the house she inquires of Martha, the woman of all work, for her father, Reginald Ryall, weak and wavering, is a strange contrast to his daughter, who inherits from a Scotch mother, strength and ambition. The Ryall land is mortgaged. Nora manages the estate, break and his intention of going to London. Nora's eye and her father complains of his narrow life—without a rest on an envelope addressed in a lady's handwriting. At supper-time Martha can only talk of Sir Joseph Ferrand and the grand doings at the Hall. Going to the barn she finds Ned fast asleep. A heifer is missing, and she starts in search of it. Coming to a gap in the hedge, bounding the Ferrands' land she sees Brindle. Sir Joseph's cousin, Elliot Graham, who is in the capacity of a caretaker on the Ferrand estate, assists her. Mr. Ryall goes to London, leaving Nora free to ride over the hills with Bob, the sheep collie. She meets Elliot Graham who asks permission to ride on the Ryall estate. The following afternoon she discovers a stranger fishing in the Ryall water. She is a keen angler and shows him a better way to hook the fish. Requesting him to stand at one side she tries for one on the opposite bank. The cast is short and she stands on the bank of the river. Pretending she is slipping in she puts her arm around her waist. Nora utters a cry and before she can turn, the faithful collie pushes him, he loses his footing and slips in the stream. Elliot Graham witnesses the scene and inquires the trouble. Nora honestly explains that Bob resents the stranger's familiarity and is responsible for his fall. Elliot introduces Miss Ryall of Ryall—he has been fishing in the Ryall water without permission, and apologizes. Nora tells Elliot of Mr. Ferrand's audacity, and fearing a quarrel between them prevents Elliot from following him. Elliot wishes he bore the relationship of brother.

Three days later Mr. Ryall arrives home bringing a wife and Nora realizes her father has been entrapped by an adventure, and passes a sleepless night. Coming to the breakfast table she finds her father alone and looking disturbed. He admits Mrs. Ryall is disappointed with the surroundings and Nora's poor clothes. They eat the remainder of the meal in silence and Nora goes about her regular routine. Returning for lunch she meets Mrs. Ryall, who is surprised that Nora works. From what her husband had said she thought he was one of the landed gentry with servants and horses. The lunch does not appeal to her and she asks for something to drink. Nora makes her escape and rides across the valley.

After the river incident Elliot rides to the little cottage where he lives, to see that the horses are all right. He meets a jingle drawn by a pony and recognizes a young lady as Miss Bartley. She inquires the way to the Hall, and further conversation reveals his name and that he cares for Sir Joseph's horses. Expressing a desire to see them Elliot leads her to the stables. As he assists Miss Bartley into the jingle Selwyn Ferrand comes along. He apologizes for his appearance and turning to Elliot commands him to go about his business. Elliot hands Miss Bartley the whip and closes the door and she leaves the two men confronting each other. Ferrand does not know who he is and attempts to strike Elliot. Sir Joseph appears and reminds his son he's been making a fool of himself. Selwyn Ferrand going to the Hall meets a man shambling along. He demands his business and he admits he is Sir Joseph's confidential clerk. Stripleby meets Sir Joseph and gives him two letters—one from Australia. He will answer the one bearing the stamp of Gilley and Roberts. At the mention of the Australian letter Sir Joseph casts a sharp glance at the unnaturally white face.

Matters grow worse. Mrs. Ryall is exacting in her demands for money and is anxious to know the Ferrands. Nora, going for a walk, meets Sir Joseph. In his confusion he hastily puts something into his pocket. Elliot Graham appears and she confides in him, and because he loves her would help her. She cannot understand—he has known her so little time and powerless to resist she allows him to kiss her. Nora hurries home. Her stepmother accuses her of meeting a man in secret—and he a groom. Nora denies he is a groom and Mrs. Ryall, in her anger, slaps Nora across the face. Feeling the bitterness of the blow Nora leaves home. She overhears Sir Joseph and his lawyer talking, not dreaming they have reference to her. Meeting a boy with a bundle, she exchanges a brooch for a new suit of boy's clothes and goes to Portland.

Mr. Ryall, returning from a fruitless search for Nora, finds Mrs. Ryall entertaining Sir Joseph, who invites them to dinner next day. It was one, such as Mrs. Ryall had never sat down to before. After the glass or two of wine her tongue becomes unloosed. Sir Joseph is attentive and Mrs. Ryall is satisfied.

Entering Portland Nora buys a pair of scissors and cuts her hair short. She assumes the gait of a boy and inquires for work. Not getting any she walks into the country. An old lady drives along—the pony stumbles and Nora springs to her rescue. The old lady invites Nora to ride. Getting home an old man comes out and she tells Jacob she has found a boy for him. Nora attends to the horse then brings order into a disorderly kitchen. Taking hot water to Miss Deborah she stops to admire some pictures, one of which bears a striking resemblance to Elliot Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryall return the Ferrands' hospitality by giving a picnic. Champagne flows freely and the uproar reaches Elliot Graham as he walks down the valley. Selwyn Ferrand orders him to help pack the things. Florence Bartley expresses her pleasure to Mrs. Ryall and hopes Miss Ryall will be there next time. Elliot overhears her answer and the inference of an attraction for Nora in the city. Nearly a month after Nora takes her place in Miss Deborah's household. Mr. Trunton, the Newbury lawyer calls; that evening she tells Jacob he must go to Lonsay. Describing the place to Nora she requests to go and the next morning sails over with Captain Marks. Reaching a small farmhouse she passes to Mr. Hodges a notice to quit. She visits the other tenant Shuffley who receives the notice with a strange look on his face. She spies Captain Marks in his boat. She attempts to call to him, when she sees a second figure. She sinks to the ground, then rising flees to the farthest part of the island.

Elliot goes to London with three of Sir Joseph's horses. Meeting Mr. Stripleby he offers Elliot hospitality and in his talk praises Sir Joseph. Elliot, hearing the word Australia looks up. Stripleby catches the steady look and inquires if he were connected with a place called Wally Hollow. It was his father's place. Getting into difficulties Sir Joseph takes it with the debts and liabilities, his father signing an agreement that Sir Joseph shall hold Wally Hollow estate until liabilities are paid. Stripleby realizes that Sir Joseph has the Wally Hollow estate in his grip, that it is worth £100,000 and belongs to Elliot Graham. Elliot returns to the city, and meeting Mrs. Ryall inquires for Miss Ryall. She admits she has been staying in the same house with Nora, who leaves the day before with her friends, and her special friend—it's all settled and a very happy match. Mrs. Ryall requests he does not mention meeting her, especially to Sir Joseph.

CHAPTER XV.

THE day after the picnic Sir Joseph called at the Grange to ask whether Mrs. Ryall's health had suffered from her hospitable exertions. He had seen Ryall drive away from the house, and knew that Mrs. Ryall would be alone. After a little talk, and after glancing at the door to ascertain that it was closed, he said:

"My visit this afternoon, my dear lady, is not solely one of pleasure. I have come on a matter of business."

"I am sorry that Reginald is out—is it anything very important?"

"Oh no, not at all. To tell the truth, you and I could do it without troubling Mr. Ryall; in fact, it is a little matter which we could perhaps manage better without him."

"I am sure anything I can do—"

"You can do it very well, my dear lady. It is a little matter of business connected with your stepdaughter. I am very sorry she is away from home just at this time, and I gather she is not returning for a little while. Now, I want her

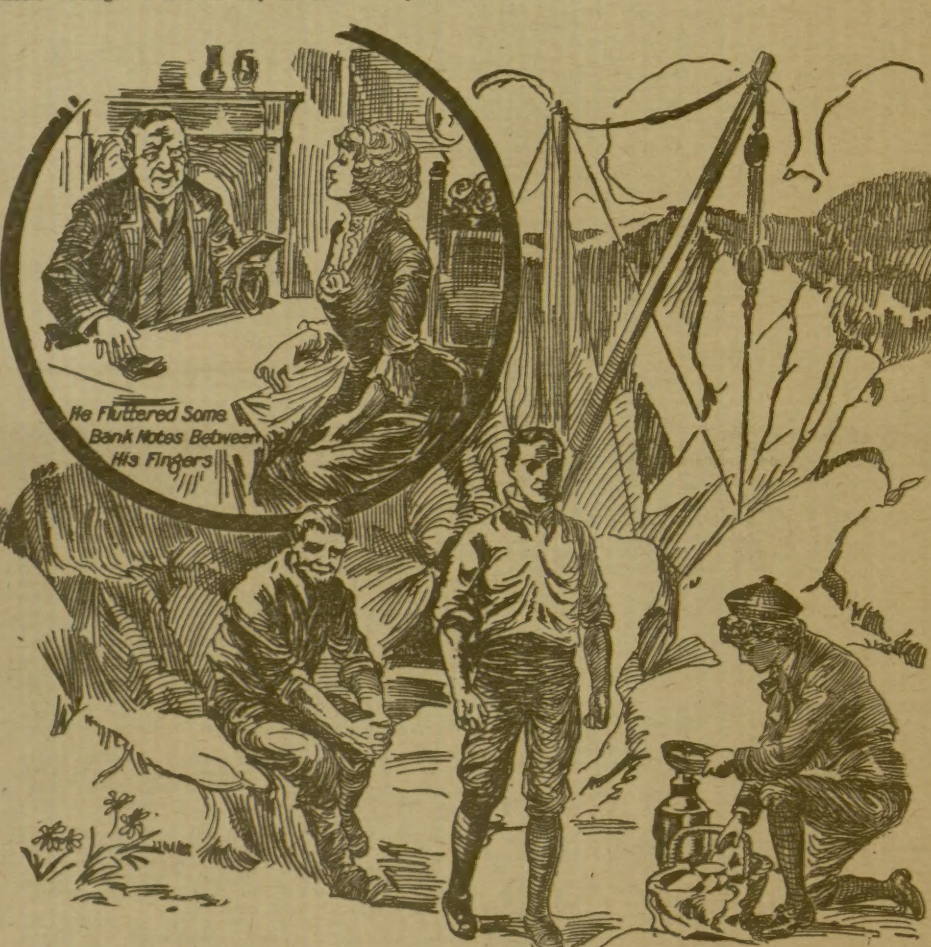
signature to a paper. It is a deed in reference to a piece of land which adjoins my estate, and which I am desirous of purchasing. It is of very little value, none at all, so to speak; but I think of cutting a drive across it, so that we can reach the Hall from the cross-roads instead of going round. I have spoken to Mr. Trunton, and he and I have agreed on the price. It's not for me to say that it's a liberal one, but I may remark that Mr. Trunton considered it to be extremely so."

"Reginald—" began Mrs. Ryall but Sir Joseph stopped her with a wave of his hand. "I know. You were going to say that Mr. Ryall ought to be consulted—that is exactly my difficulty. I am aware of his prejudice against parting with even so small and valueless a piece of his land, and have no doubt that he would be strongly opposed to his daughter's selling this piece."

He waited a second or two to see if Mrs. Ryall would shrink from conniving at the treachery he was proposing, but she behaved just as he had expected her to do. She nodded and sighed, as if deploring her husband's lack of common sense. Sir Joseph went on more confidently:

"Of course, by opposing the sale he would stand in his daughter's light. I am willing to give her a thousand pounds."

Mrs. Ryall's eyes opened with astonishment. "Now I propose that you and I should manage this little matter between us. It is really quite simple; you run up to town, just for a little change, see Miss Ryall, and get her signature. You will have to sign it as a witness—also a very simple matter, which I will explain to you. Excuse me one moment," he added quickly, as Mrs. Ryall, whose face had become very pale, opened her lips. "You will find London—er—rather expensive—I know what London means to ladies. Now, I'm sure you won't be offended if I venture to take the responsibility of this little outing. I should say it will cost you a



"I AM GOING DOWN. I'LL TAKE IT TO HIM. DON'T YOU WAIT."

hundred pounds at the very least, and I shall take it as a favor if you will allow me to hand you that sum."

He fluttered some bank notes between his podgy fingers; and Mrs. Ryall's eyes glittered as they rested on the precious pieces of paper. But she was very pale, and there was a strained expression about her mouth. Sir Joseph thought it was greed, but there was fear also. The temptation was a terrible one. A hundred pounds! In all her struggling, disreputable life she had never had so large a sum in her hands. As she went over both sides of the question in her mind, the perspiration started to her brow, and she stared at the floor, almost forgetting Sir Joseph's presence.

"Well, my dear lady?" he inquired, "what do you say?"

"I should so like to help you, dear Sir Joseph—and it will be such a good thing for Nora, won't it? It would be such a pity if Reginald spoiled such a chance for her, with his foolish pride. Yes, I really must try and manage it."

This was all Sir Joseph wanted; he placed the notes in her hand with the burlesque manner of a conspirator ratifying a bargain. Sir Joseph, clever and astute as he was, little guessed to what lengths Mrs. Ryall's folly and greed would carry her, or he would not have been so complacent, or, indeed, so contemptuous.

Elliot left London the day after his meeting with Mrs. Ryall. He felt that, since the confirmation of the bad news about Nora, he could not remain amongst surroundings which daily and hourly reminded him of her, so he informed Sir Joseph of his intention to leave his service.

"What's the matter?" he inquired. "Anything wrong? What are you going to do—where are you going?"

"I don't know," said Elliot. "I think I shall go abroad back to Australia."

"I shouldn't do that if I were you. They're having a bad time over there."

"I might get something to do in London, perhaps."

"You'll wait until I get somebody to fill your place?"

"Why, of course," assented Elliot. When Sir Joseph returned to the Hall he found Mr. Trunton waiting for him. After they had discussed the business of the land, Sir Joseph spoke about Elliot. "He's a decent chap, and I should like to keep my eye on him. Do you happen to know of any job in the neighborhood that would suit him?"

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After some consideration, Mr. Trunton mentioned a bit of business at Lonsay Island. He wanted, he said, someone to survey it, and find out the possibilities of the land. And so it came about that Elliot set sail for the same island where Nora was.

CHAPTER XVI.

Nora fled until she reached a little hollow in the downs; there she threw herself on the ground and covered her face with a sense of shame.

Elliot Graham, the man who loved her, was there on the island. Was there no escape? She wondered whether she could impose upon Elliot as she imposed upon so many people. Small as was the chance, it was her only one. She proceeded slowly towards the house. As she came in sight of it, her heart beat faster.

They turned to Nora as she entered, and Elliot looked round. At first he looked at her with but faint interest; then his eyes grew keener; he straightened himself and stared at her.

"And this is the young gentleman I was a-telling you of," said Hodges by way of introduction. When Nora spoke she imitated a boy's half-broken voice very cleverly. Elliot watched her closely, but he did not speak. After some little time, Elliot filled his pipe, lit it, and went to the door, saying to Nora as he did so:

"I suppose you know every part of the island?"

"Oh, yes," she said, also going to the door.

"Do you know Byeworthy?" he asked.

Nora shook her head.

"I thought you might know the Ryalls, an old family there?"

"Oh, yes, they are a kind of connection of mine."

"That accounts for it," he said. "You are the very image of Nor—Miss Ryall."

"Am I? I hope she's good looking," retorted Nora, impudently.

"She's the most beautiful girl I have ever seen," said Elliot, gravely. "I heard she was going to be married—do you happen to know if it is true?"

"Yes, very easily, if Mrs. Gordon will agree to do the right thing, though I am not sure that you are not letting her off altogether too easily."

"But it was not so much her fault, after all; she was almost forced into it, you know," pleaded Ruby.

"That is true, but it will all depend upon herself; she will have to keep the particulars from the prosecuting attorney, and be governed entirely by me," returned the lawyer, thoughtfully.

"But," he added, "we must find the diamonds; we can do nothing without them."

Mr. Conant went to Walter and made him exchange his clothing for a suit of his, and carried to the other room the three garments Walter had just taken off. Then there was an exciting search after the missing diamonds.

Ruby herself was the successful one, and with a nervous laugh she proclaimed:

"I have found them! I have found them! bring me a pair of scissors, quick!"

The missing gems had been sewed into the thick padding at the top of the sleeves of the coat—one into each—and so carefully imbedded in it, and so neatly done that no one would ever have suspected their existence, without some previous knowledge, or that the coat had ever been tampered with.

"Let me rip them out for you, dear," said Mr. Conant, gently, and trying to take the garment from the young girl, for she was very much excited.

"No! no! I must bring them to the light. Oh! to think what a vile plot it was!"

They let her have her way, though her little hands shook like leaves in the wind as she ripped the lining away, drew forth Mrs. Gordon's jewels, and handed them to the lawyer.

Then, with a glad burst of tears, she lay back among her pillows, feeling weak and exhausted but as if her troubles were all at an end.

There was general rejoicing over this discovery; but Walter, although he of course suspected a good deal, was told nothing beyond the fact that he had nothing to fear.

Mrs. Gordon was sent for at once, and while they were waiting for her, Ruby told about the finding of Ralph Carpenter's will, and where she had concealed it, whereupon Mr. Ruggles, taking an officer with him, posted off to Forestvale to secure it.

He found Mrs. Coxon still there. The purchaser of the estate was not to take possession until the first of October; meanwhile she was to remain there and get the furniture in proper order for an auction sale; so, as yet, fortunately, scarcely anything had been disturbed.

The good old housekeeper was simply horrified upon learning what had happened to Ruby, but she was overjoyed to know that she had discovered the long missing will.

It was easily found, and Mr. Ruggles returned in triumph with it to Mr. Conant's.

Meantime Mrs. Gordon had arrived, and the moment she espied Ruby, she rushed forward, sobbing hysterically, and threw herself upon her knees beside her.

"Estelle," Ruby said, gravely and somewhat coldly, "I want you to compose yourself, for I have a great deal to tell you, and we have much to arrange, and there is no time for sentiment now."

She then related to her all that she had overheard under the great oak at Forestvale, and Mrs. Gordon seemed crushed and repentant as she listened.

Her indignation at Edmund Carpenter's treachery was unbounded, and she readily agreed to be guided by Walter's counsel regarding her evidence at the morrow's trial.

It was a glad day to Ruby and Walter, who had a few hours to themselves in the afternoon, which they spent in rehearsing the exciting incidents of the weeks that had elapsed since they last saw each other.

During this time Mr. Ruggles was engaged upon a pleasant errand.

He did not forget his promise of the previous day, and went to make his call upon Miss Annie Partridge.

He took along with him a pretty velvet case containing a charming little watch, which, after explaining to the young girl and her mother something of what had occurred to Ruby during the last few weeks, he presented to Annie and requested that what he had told them might be considered as strictly confidential.

Thus all scandal was avoided, and but very few ever knew of the romantic events which had occurred in the very heart of that delightful city.

CHAPTER XLVII.

A BRILLIANT WEDDING.

"Can you ever forgive me, Ruby? My worldly ambition, my pride and love of money, have nearly proved my own ruin, as well as yours. I deserve your supreme contempt instead of the gentle care and kindness which you are giving me."

This from Mrs. Gordon, who had been ill for

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 29.)

RUBY'S REWARD

By Mrs. Georgie Sheldon

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CHAPTER XLVI. (CONTINUED.)

"W" HY, Ruby! what can you mean?"

"Oh! I do not believe that I ought to tell you—I am afraid it would not be best for you to know just yet. Send Mr. Conant to me—I will tell him, and I will be governed by what he says." Ruby replied, with a troubled look.

Ever since she had known that the diamonds were concealed about his clothing, she had thought if she could only secure them without his knowledge, and return them to her sister, Mrs. Gordon could swear that he had never even seen her property, and the affair could be hushed up without bringing her to shame. Ruby could not endure the thought of betraying Estelle's complicity with Edmund Carpenter, for she was her own brother's wife and her good name was dear to her for his sake.

Walter began to suspect something of what was in her mind. He started and grew pale, as it flashed upon him that he had worn that very suit out to Forestvale that night, and that he had found his coat lying upon the floor the next morning, instead of upon the chair where he was sure that he had hung it.

"Ruby, you cannot mean—" he began, excitedly.

"Don't ask me just now," she interrupted, pleadingly. "Let me tell Mr. Conant first."

He said no more, but went immediately to comply with her request, every nerve in his body tingling as he thought that perhaps, at that very moment, he was carrying those stolen jewels about with him.

But where? Surely they had searched every pocket thoroughly as soon as they had begun to suspect foul play.

But Mr. Conant went to Ruby at once, and she told the whole story.

Walter's lawyer was then sent for, and it was repeated to him, and he commended the young girl warmly for her thoughtfulness.

"You were very wise, my dear Miss Gordon, not to tell Mr. Richardson; it is far better that he should not know the circumstances until after the trial, especially if we desire to hush the matter and save your sister's reputation."

"It must be saved for my brother's sake," Ruby said, with great agitation. "I cannot bear to appear against her. I would rather that the villain should go unpunished, and I am sure Walter would agree with me, than to have all this miserable story come out. Don't you think it can be arranged in some way?" she concluded, anxiously.

"Yes, very easily, if Mrs. Gordon will agree to do the right thing, though I am not sure that you are not letting her off altogether too easily."

"But it was not so much her fault, after all; she was almost forced into it, you know," pleaded Ruby.

"That is true, but it will all depend upon herself; she will have to keep the particulars from the prosecuting attorney, and be governed entirely by me," returned the lawyer, thoughtfully.

"But," he added, "we must find the diamonds; we can do nothing without them."

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"I have found them! I have found them! bring me a pair of scissors, quick!"

The missing gems had been sewed into the thick padding at the top of the sleeves of the coat—one into each—and so carefully imbedded in it, and so neatly done that no one would ever have suspected their existence, without some previous knowledge, or that the coat had ever been tampered with.

"Let me rip them out for you, dear," said Mr. Conant, gently, and trying to take the garment from the young girl, for she was very much excited.

"No! no! I must bring them to the light. Oh! to think what a vile plot it was!"

They let her have her way, though her little hands shook like leaves in the wind as she ripped the lining away, drew forth Mrs. Gordon's jewels, and handed them to the lawyer.

Then, with a glad burst of tears, she lay back among her pillows, feeling weak and exhausted but as if her troubles were all at an end.

There was general rejoicing over this discovery; but Walter, although he of course suspected a good deal, was told nothing beyond the fact that he had nothing to fear.

Mrs. Gordon was sent for at once, and while they were waiting for her, Ruby told about the finding of Ralph Carpenter's will, and where she had concealed it, whereupon Mr. Ruggles, taking an officer with him, posted off to Forestvale to secure it.

He found Mrs. Coxon still there. The purchaser of the estate was not to take possession until the first of October; meanwhile she was to remain there and get the furniture in proper order for an auction sale; so, as yet, fortunately, scarcely anything had been disturbed.

The good old housekeeper was simply horrified upon learning what had happened to Ruby, but she was overjoyed to know that she had discovered the long missing will.

It was easily found, and Mr. Ruggles returned in triumph with it to Mr. Conant's.

Meantime Mrs. Gordon had arrived, and the moment she espied Ruby, she rushed forward, sobbing hysterically, and threw herself upon her knees beside her.

"Estelle," Ruby said, gravely and somewhat coldly, "I want you to compose yourself, for I have a great deal to tell you, and we have much to arrange, and there is no time for sentiment now."

She then related to her all that she had overheard under the great oak at Forestvale, and Mrs. Gordon seemed crushed and repentant as she listened.

Her indignation at Edmund Carpenter's treachery was unbounded, and she readily agreed to be guided by Walter's counsel regarding her evidence at the morrow's trial.

It was a glad day to Ruby and Walter, who had a few hours to themselves in the afternoon, which they spent in rehearsing the exciting incidents of the weeks that had elapsed since they last saw each other.

During this time Mr. Ruggles was engaged upon a pleasant errand.

He did not forget his promise of the previous day, and went to make his call upon Miss Annie Partridge.

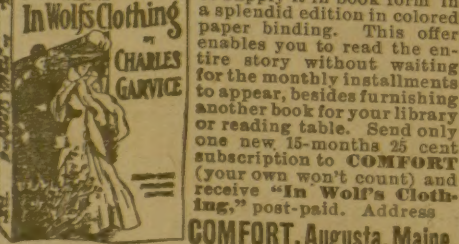
He took along with him a pretty velvet case containing a charming little watch, which, after explaining to the young girl and her mother something of what had occurred to Ruby during the last few weeks, he presented to Annie and requested that what he had told them might be considered as strictly confidential.

Thus all scandal was avoided, and but very few ever knew of the romantic events which had occurred in the very heart of that delightful city.

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If you would at once read full and complete story, "In Wolf's Clothing," we are prepared to supply it in book form in a splendid edition in colored paper binding. This offer enables you to read the entire story without waiting for the monthly installments to appear, besides furnishing another book for your library or reading table. Send only one new 15-months 25 cent subscription to COMFORT (your own won't count) and receive "In Wolf's Clothing," post-paid. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

made overalls which were carefully ripped up. I always shrink the denim before cutting out a new pair. Then when they have to be washed they won't draw up but very little, if any.

How many of the sisters are teaching their children to help mamma? I wish you could see how nice my two girls (seven and four years old) can polish the glassware and silverware. They can set the table just as nice as I can. But mind you, I don't keep them at it so they will get turned against it. I just call on them occasionally; just enough to learn them. My seven-year-old girl can make good corn bread. I let her make a plain cake once, and oh, how proud she was. I believe in teaching them everything we know ourselves.

I did not always use white table linen for every-day wear out in this winter in order to teach my girls to be careful. For if they are not accustomed to it at home, they will surely make a blunder away from home. Now sisters when a little coffee, tea or fruit stain is spilled on your snowy white cloth, just place a soap plate under stain and pour boiling water on it and see it disappear. Remove plate, with clean white cloth rub as much of the water out as possible. Then smooth cloth out on table as before, it will soon dry and look fine. Of course this treatment will not do when the cloth needs washing, but just when someone has spilled something on an otherwise clean cloth.

I agree with Miss Lena Ahlers; I think everyone should name their homes. Ours is "Oak Lawn." Now I must tell you something about myself. I am twenty-seven years old; have been married nine years. I have brown hair and eyes. I am ugly but I don't grieve about that, for my home is happy with a kind husband and four beautiful little girls to share it with me. We are trying to be Christians.

With best wishes to you all, I remain,
Mrs. MATTIE A. CARTER, Elkland, R. R., Mo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
I wonder if you will slip round and give me room for a little chat this Sunday afternoon, for I know of no better way to pass the hours than to write a few words to dear old COMFORT which we all hail with as much pleasure as we would a long absent friend, for it is indeed a very tried and true friend to us all. I have received so much information from its pages, that I feel a delicacy in attempting to enter where there has been so much good already said. Nevertheless I will try.

In discussing what it means to be a Christian I don't think our editor could have hit on a broader question to bring out our better thinking powers, as it includes so much. All that we are and all that we expect to be are included in those few words, for what does it mean for us to live here and miss our goal (Heaven), and surely we can't expect a reward unless we strive for it. I think we should try to live with a clear conscience toward God and toward our fellow men for we know there is no bed that rests as well as that of an easy conscience, and how can our conscience be easy if it is polluted with sin and wrong doing to any creature? If we lean on Jesus and look to Him for guidance and not let our thoughts dwell on earthly things, surely He will take us through.

And then we mothers have such a great and grand responsibility resting on our shoulders for I do think it grand to rear a family of noble boys and girls that will later rule the world. And how can we do this unless we are Christians? The training should begin at the cradle, our own acts must be ever guarded, and we should always bear in mind our own dependence on Him to rear our children to the glory of God.

I think our corner is doing a great work towards brightening and lifting up many lives that are unfortunate. I don't suppose any of us are very rich, still we can do our duty and that is all God requires. Riches don't always make happiness, but kindness, pure thoughts and a clean, spotless life before God, and being content with what He gives us.

I read the list of shut-ins and wish to do something for everyone of them, but we have so many needy ones at our door, my means are exhausted before it reaches far. I do hope to bring a smile or a glad heart to some of them sometimes as I am rearing a family of my own, six children living and four gone to God who gave them.

Wishing you everyone a happy new year and closer walk with God, I am your sister in Christ,
Mrs. E. B. BRADY, Benson, N. C.

DEAR SISTERS:
We would like to adopt a boy and girl; can give references both bank and social. Healthy children of the Caucasian race. We have no children; will treat them well and send to school when old enough.
MR. and MRS. L. R. WALKER, Alderson, W. Va.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
On this cold day will you allow a sister from Ohio to enter your happy circle a little while?
I enjoy reading COMFORT, especially the letters and the comments by Mrs. Wilkinson. May God bless her, also Uncle Charlie in their noble work of my dearest wish. To the dear, patient shut-ins, all I can say is to trust in God; He doeth all things well.
Can anyone send me a remedy for sciatic neuralgia? I have always worked very hard. Now I can do very little, and my only child is not very strong. I would appreciate hearing from the sisters.
NANCY ANN PAUGH, Coolville, R. R. 4, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
Would like to say a few words in praise of dear old COMFORT before going any further. There is not another paper, to my knowledge, in the world equal to it. It is currently named COMFORT, and is a literal comfort in its true sense.

What a wealth of blessings it brings us every month! I do enjoy reading the sisters' letters. So many of the Western sisters write such interesting things I love the great wide West. It has such vast possibilities, and its people are so bold and high-spirited. The Sun in the South holds a corner of my heart, and I love to read the letters from beautiful Dixie Land.

We have taken COMFORT for a long time, and, as I have never written to the Sisters' Corner, thought perhaps someone might like to read a letter from New Haven, Connecticut.

Connecticut was one of the original thirteen colonies. It is an Indian name meaning "Long River." New Haven was settled in 1637 by a party of Englishmen, and had for a long time no laws but the Bible, and allowed none to vote but church members. Religious controversies were mild, however, and there was little persecution for opinion's sake.

Owing to its magnificent climate, it has a population of about 135,000 inhabitants, and is the largest city in Connecticut, and pride of New England. It is a very enterprising city and has many beautiful public schools and municipal buildings. It is strictly a commercial, industrial, and educational center.

New Haven has a harbor and a half's ride by train from New York city, and there are transportation lines by boat daily, between New Haven and New York, Boston, and Providence which connect all over the United States with other lines of boat and rail.

The principal manufactures are organs, pianos, automobiles, fine carriage baby carriages, rattan, hardware of every description, sashes, doors and blinds, bird-cages, webbing, buttons, paper bags, paper boxes, medicinal foods, wire goods of all kinds, blotting paper, elastic bands, hot water bags and rain-coats, rubber boots and overshoes, the famous marlin guns and Winchester rifles.

Yale University is situated in New Haven and its magnificent buildings cover about a square mile. Over three thousand students come from all over the world to enter Yale, yearly.

There are three general hospitals and numerous private ones in our city. A "quiet zone" has been established and all peddlers cannot cry their wares within a radius of a quarter of a mile around the hospitals under penalty of the law.

Probably no city of its size has more beautiful or numerous bank buildings.

There is an extensive trolley system enabling those living in outlying districts to work in city offices and factories and keep regular hours.

There are churches of all denominations, theatres, and hotels. The Hotel Taft is the finest and largest in the New England states.

New Haven is bounded on the east by an elevation of land three hundred and sixty-five feet high called "East Rock," which is one of the chain of the Green Mountains which extends through Connecticut. And on the west by a similar prominence called "West Rock," which is four hundred feet high. On this rock is a cave called "Judges' Cave," so called because it was the refuge of the three English judges, called the regicides, when they fled from the wrath of King Geo. III. Goffe, Whalley and Dixwell.

About a quarter of a mile from the base of West Rock they separated, as the English soldiers were in hot pursuit. They each took a different path to their place of safety. These paths are now prominent

thoroughfares in our city. The point of separation is called Broadway, while the paths are named Goffe Street, Whalley Avenue, and Dixwell Avenue respectively.

Both East and West Rocks are beautifully laid out with artistic flower beds, drives, rustic arbors and seats every short distance on which to sit and rest from the steep climb and observe the surrounding country.

At the top of East Rock is a pavilion where refreshments are served in summer. During the fall and winter months the parks are seldom used except for horseback riding.

New Haven has other pretty parks and several squares called Greens.

In the very heart of the city is a space of land one mile square, surrounded by the principal streets and high buildings called "The Old Green." In colonial days this was used for gathering place on festive occasions, and as a market place for the sale of their goods.

It is still used as a gathering place on gala occasions, and especially on the Fourth of July when nearly the whole city and surrounding towns gather to witness the grand display of fireworks at night.

Three of the oldest, and first churches in New Haven are situated in the middle of the Old Green. The center one is called the Center Church, the north one is called the North Church, and the remaining one is called the Trinity Church and is noted for its chimneys.

In the rear of the center church and on its very foundations, are buried the first settlers of the New Haven colony. Its first pastor was the Rev. John Davenport, and the entire colony were Congregationalists.

New Haven also played a part in the Revolutionary days. Remains of Fort Hale and Fort Wooster are still in preservation.

On the outskirts of the city are many pretty little towns and villages. Some nestle among the wooded hills, while others border on the east and west shores of beautiful Long Island Sound.

No farming of any account is done in or around New Haven. Peach orchards thrive and strawberry culture is carried on extensively.

"Little kitchen gardens" afford pleasure and pastime to those who have the time for it, but nearly everyone is employed in either an office or factory, if not at school.

Trusting this may interest the COMFORT sisters, who have given me so much pleasure in their letters, and with all best wishes to dear old COMFORT and all its readers, I am your little Connecticut sister,
Miss ANN R. SALESKEE, 783 Quinlan Ave., New Haven, Conn.

Miss Saleskee. Your graphic pen picture of old New England is both entertaining and instructive, and will greatly interest our COMFORT sisters, especially those living in "the great wide West."

The good things you say of COMFORT gives me real pleasure. Thanks.—Ed.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
Will you please admit a sister from old Georgia into your happy circle? I do enjoy reading the sisters' letters; they are interesting and helpful to me. Uncle Charlie's criticisms are so comical and a sure cure for the blues.

I live in a pretty little valley surrounded by immense mountain ranges, which are very beautiful during the spring and summer months. We have some of the very best mineral water among these hills. This is also a very good farming and fruit growing country, cotton being the chief product, but most any kind of vegetables thrive well here.

Do the sisters know that cornstalks make the very best of kindlings. A handful of crumpled paper and a dozen or so of cornstalks, cut the proper length, will start any fire.

To heat a room quickly this is my plan. Open every door and window in the room to make a free circulation and fill the room with fresh, pure air, as it is hard to heat impure air. Start the fire, close the room and it will warm up in less than half the time it would if the doors and windows had not been opened.

With love and best wishes, I remain,
Mrs. CLARISA BLACK, Ringgold, R. R. 2, Ga.

DEAR EDITOR AND COMFORT SISTERS:
As I seldom ever see a letter from Southern Illinois, would like to join your charming circle.

I have been a subscriber of COMFORT for sometime and enjoy reading it so much, especially the League of Cousins and the COMFORT Sisters' Corner, from which so much useful information is gained.

I live in the extreme southern part of Illinois. Metropolis is a beautiful little city, located on the banks of the Ohio River.

This part of the country is called "Egypt." One reason being that it is a great corn producing region and it is said that years ago, there was a corn famine in the north and consequently people came here to get their corn as they did in olden times in ancient Egypt.

I am the baby and only child in the family. Am seventeen years old. Have light brown hair, hazel eyes and weigh about one hundred and twenty pounds. I am a stenographer.

I heartily endorse Miss Elsie Gordon's advice in the January issue of COMFORT. Oh! how many poor innocent girls are forced into the "white slave" traffic, just simply by trusting strangers.

Please do not think me "forward" but I would like to reply to Mrs. Smithburger's question in the January issue, viz.: "Can anyone really be a true Christian without belonging to the church?" Yes, I believe one can be a true Christian and not belong to any church.

I am sorry to say that so many many church members are practicing hypocrisy and are only using the church as a cloak for concealing their evil doings, with all however. Others are merely "joining the church," thinking that is all that is necessary in becoming a Christian.

I believe in joining a church of your own belief, when one is a true child of God (but not before), as I think it helps one to live a better Christian life if you are under good Christian influence.

Please pardon my lengthy letter as I am afraid I will crowd some other sister out of the corner.

I would be pleased to hear from any of the sisters. Best wishes to all.

MISS LAURA A. MORGAN, Metropolis, Ill.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
COMFORT has been a welcome visitor for many months, and I like the paper very much, especially the letters.

Could some of the sisters give me a remedy for frost bites, as my little boy is bothered so much with them. I have tried a number of things, but of no benefit. He has had them on his feet for two years. I hope to hear from sisters.

Mrs. B. MUNSCHULL, Knowles, Wis.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
What a great comfort the COMFORT has been to me this past year. I read all the sisters' letters in this paper, and they make me feel that life on a farm is not the worst thing after all.

My husband is trying to sell our home, in which we live in Brooklyn, N. Y., and buy a farm about sixty to one hundred acres. Having been born and bred in the city, it seems so hard to give up the pleasures and not be able to see one's friends and folks for long stretches of months.

Owing to poor health of my husband, especially in the winter, I have consented to go on a farm, thinking of course, that I am making a great sacrifice. I get no encouragement from my own people; everybody says: "Whatever put such nonsense into your husband's head. You will be so lonesome."

Would like to hear from farmers' wives, what farm life is like. Am twenty-seven years old and have a little son seven years old.

My sympathy is with all the shut-ins.
Mrs. DOROTHY HARTMAN, 19 Snyder Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

DEAR SISTERS:
I have been a silent reader of COMFORT ever since I was a little girl, my father having taken it a long time, and now I want to be one of your happy band.

I will describe myself so you all will know how I look. I am five feet, six inches tall, have black hair, fair complexion, brown eyes, weigh one hundred and sixty pounds. Am twenty-two years of age. Not so small am I? I was born and reared in dear old Mississippi and think it is a grand old state. If any of you Mississippi sisters read this would like to hear from you.

I have been married eighteen months to one of the dearest husbands in the world. He is so good to me. We have a dear little blue-eyed baby girl, who is the light of our home. She is five months old, and of course we think she is the only baby.

We came to Arkansas in August, 1910. I like this place and it is a healthy country. We are surrounded by mountains on every side which are very beautiful in summer, and winter too, when covered with snow. We have no saloons in our city, for which I am glad. This place is a good mining town.

My husband is a dentist, so you see I am alone a great deal, and I am a coward too, but I have a nice home and am happy as I can be. I just love house-

keeping, and think it is a woman's place to stay at home and keep everything neat and clean, so when "hubby" comes home he will have a smile on his face instead of a frown. How many sisters agree with me?

How many of you like music and flowers? I do, and intend to have a beautiful yard some day. I can play a violin and most any kind of a stringed instrument. I have a piano but can't play much, I expect to take music lessons when baby is larger. I do lots of fancy work. I have some nice pictures. How many of the sisters like to embroider? It helps the looks of our home so much.

How many of you are Christians? I am a member of the Christian church and would enjoy going to church every Sunday but there are so many diseases I can't go and take my baby.

I enjoy reading the Sisters' Corner. I find many useful helps. I wish COMFORT was a weekly paper. I always turn to the sisters' page first. I enjoy reading Uncle Charlie's page. Isn't he a great, big-hearted fellow! May he live many years and do noble work.

I wish the sisters would write more about training children as I want to rear my little darling to be a noble woman. So come on sisters with your experience on rearing little ones. I am a new sister,
Mrs. L. E. WINGO, Hartford, Box 4 B., Ark.

The Open Doors



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The Bell system opens more than six million telephone doors, so that each subscriber can talk with any other subscriber.

It provides a highway of universal communication to open and connect all these doors.

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Mrs. L. E. WINGO, Hartford, Box 4 B., Ark.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
I have just read the letters in the January COMFORT and can't help writing to tell you how I do enjoy them. They have brought me so much good that I feel I must return the favor.

I have been overburdened with fat for some years; also had trouble with my kidneys, which caused my back to be weak and painful till at times I could hardly bear it. I found a cure and will "pass it on."

In four weeks I reduced three inches at the waist and four inches around the abdomen and my back is almost well. Do as follows: Keep the bowels open, and chew your food well and do not drink while eating. Do not overeat. Before breakfast, drink a cup of warm water in which you have put the juice of half a lemon. Before dinner, drink two cups of water with the juice of one quarter of a lemon to each cup. Repeat this for supper and at bedtime. Do not eat any starchy or sweet food.

I am the mother of eleven children, seven are with me now and four have gone to Jesus. I am thirty-eight years old.

My son Roy takes COMFORT. We love to read the editor's talk, the Sisters' Corner and O. L. O. O. May God bless Mr. Gannett, Uncle Charlie and our own dear editor.

I see some of the sisters are making a COMFORT quilt, so I would love to make one. Will the sisters send me a worsted piece, eight inches square. Please send your name and address with your piece so I may work it on.

With love and good wishes to everyone, I am your sister in Christ,
Mrs. J. J. MARTIN, Liberal, R. R. 3, Mo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
My mother and I have enjoyed reading COMFORT for a long time but neither of us have ever written before. Mother is bothered a great deal with some sort of an itch which comes up just like a ridge and is very itchy. It bothers her more when she goes to bed than during the daytime, although it comes out on her arms then. I am hoping that some of the sisters may know what this is and a remedy for it and that they will answer.

With every good wish for COMFORT and its readers,
ETHEL FRANCIS, Victory Mills, Box 89, Saratoga Co., New York.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:
May I be permitted to enter your happy corner? I have read COMFORT for some time and find it true to its name with the many helpful hints in its pages.

Will try to describe myself. I am five feet and four inches, have medium brown hair, gray eyes, weigh one hundred and thirty pounds, am twenty-four and a half years old, am a farmer's wife. Have been married four and a half years and have two children, both boys one three years old and the other ten months.

I do all my own sewing, also do some embroidering, but don't have much time for that.

When our children have colds, I give them a syrup made from one half cup of chopped onions, two tablespoons of brown sugar and one teaspoon of butter.

Give it warm, and it can be given quite frequently, as there is nothing harmful about it to injure their delicate systems, which is the case with so many of the cough syrups you buy.

I have read so much in the Sisters' Corner about ducks, and would like to read some sister's experience on raising geese; also, are they as profitable as ducks? and will their first laying of eggs hatch? I was told they would not. I tried my hand at raising them last summer, but had some die suddenly, when about half grown, and could find no cause.

Wishing success to all,
Mrs. LEROY G. SWANK, Butler, R. R. 3, Ohio.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:
I have been a reader of dear old COMFORT for many years and look forward to its coming as I would to some loving friend. I sincerely think the noble work of Uncle Charlie and of Mr. Gannett in giving the wheel chairs for the two hundred subscriptions is the grandest work any editor ever did.

As I have not seen any letter from this part of dear old Michigan, I thought I would write one as I enjoy reading the other sisters' letters so much.

How many of the COMFORT sisters wear the white ribbon? I do, and am proud of it. We have a Denver Willard Union here, meeting every two weeks on Thursday afternoon, except in case of storm or sickness and do flower mission work. We have local

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

GREGORY'S SEEDS

Here is a big offer of **25c** coin or stamps

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J. J. H. GREGORY & SON
1 Elm St., Marlborough, Mass.

\$1.20 Worth of Flower SEEDS
Postpaid For Only **10c**

1 Pkt. Aster, Floral Park Mixture
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We will send the above 12 packets of Flower Seed Service seeds, one year illustrated Garden Annual, and a one dollar bill giving you your money back, all for 10c postpaid.

J. ROSCOE FULLER & CO., Box 406 FLORAL PARK, N. Y.

Order Now, and make sure of getting this long wished for COMFORT. The enemy of the mosquito, the beautiful Evergreen Clematis, which will cover your porch in one season. Is very hardy and has pure white flowers of a pleasing and penetrating fragrance which mosquitoes don't like. Send \$1.00 and we will mail you one for early spring planting.

G. A. COSTICH COMPANY, Rochester, N. Y.

IN & AROUND The HOME

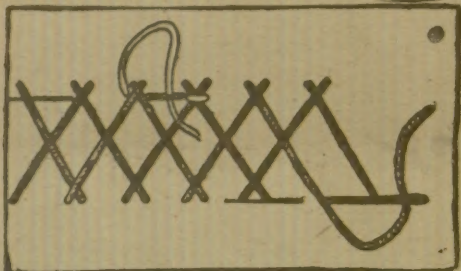
CONDUCTED BY MRS. WHEELER WILKINSON

Oriental Embroidery

ALL of the varied styles of embroidery coming under this head, although so entirely different, have a charm of their own. Most of the designs used are conventional and the colors rich, so articles decorated in this manner, if artistically done, will blend well with our modern furnishings.

Egyptian Embroidery

This embroidery is extremely simple and can be rapidly done. Its attractiveness depends



DOUBLE HERRING-BONE STITCH. FIG. 2.

largely upon its coloring, so these have to be selected with care. Dull blues, pinks with sage-green, old gold and black are mostly used, but numerous changes and combinations can be rung upon these shades.

The work is most effective on natural color linen. Select a strong piece, firm and yet not too closely woven, or if preferred brown crash can be used, but this work never should be done on dead white.

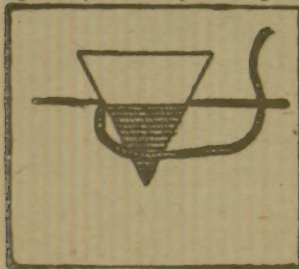
Mercerized cottons which come in all colors and wash well are much better for this work than silk. Choose a needle with an eye sufficiently large to carry your thread easily. If you do not, a lump is liable to form at the eye, which is not conducive to easy or good work.

The stitches used in Egyptian work are very simple and usually are only satin-stitch done either straight or diagonally, herring-bone and outline.

Several colors are usually used in one piece of work, connected by the black outlining, or sometimes several shades of a single color only appear, but there is never any attempt at shading. In a petal or leaf, for example, only one shade is used, so each tone is flat.

The designs are all bold and conventional. Fig. 1 gives an excellent idea of what they are like.

This design which can be enlarged upon or repeated, can easily be adapted to great variety of purposes



POINT WORKED IN SATIN-STITCH. FIG. 4.

such as a border for a tablecloth, scarf ends, sofa pillows, etc. The conventional lotus design on either side of the central flower is very effective and appears frequently in Egyptian embroidery.

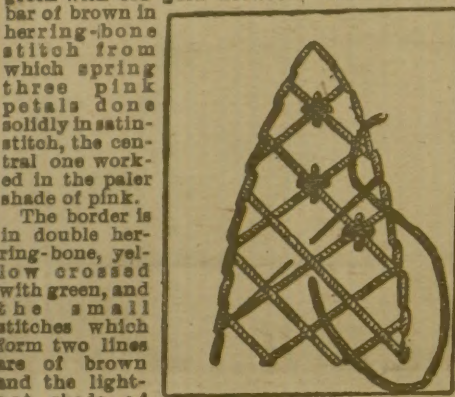
The following will be somewhat of a guide in selecting the colors to work out this pattern. The main stem of the center flower should be worked solidly in a soft sea-green, the stitches taken slantwise and close together, the two lower petals branching from this stem are of a dull pink.



ALGERIAN EMBROIDERY. FIG. 7.

boned (see Fig. 2.), followed by satin-stitch in soft brown. The next two petals above and on either side should be of a paler shade of pink from that first used, while the open work center (see Fig. 3) is done in brown, the small cross-stitches being of the gold. Then all excepting this middle section is outlined in black.

For the lotus lily the same shades are used, arranged thus: The lower ovals are of the dull green with old gold between. Then comes a



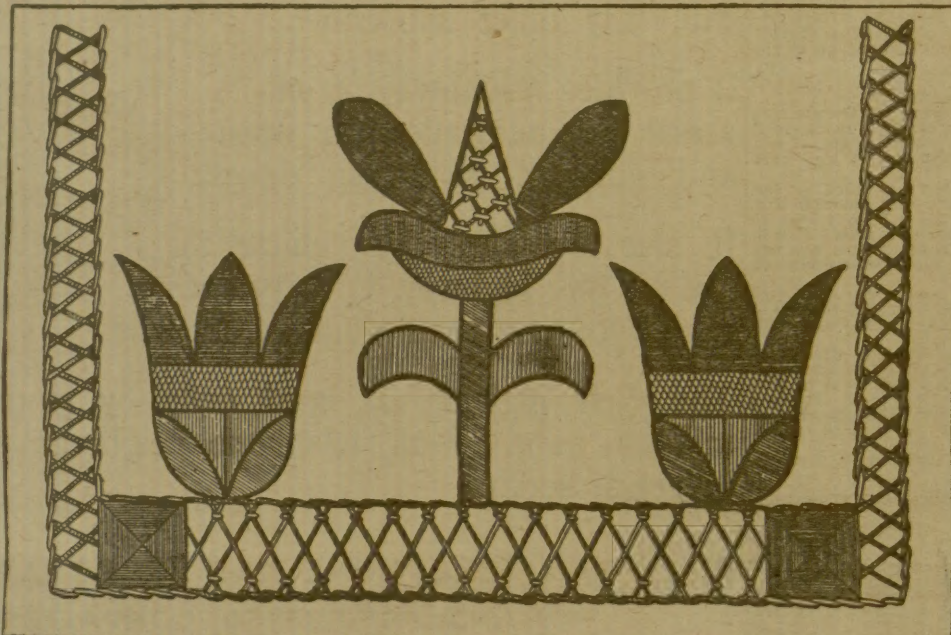
OPEN PETAL. FIG. 3.

bar of brown in herring-bone stitch from which spring three pink petals done solidly in satin-stitch, the central one worked in the paler shade of pink.

The border is in double herring-bone, yellow crossed with green, and the small stitches which form two lines are of brown and the lightest shade of pink, brown on yellow, pink on green. The squares are of brown and the outlining either side of this border, of the darker pink. The brown squares in the corners are worked solidly from the center out, in four sections (see Fig. 4).

An Effective Border

This V-shaped design is very handsome when worked in rich colors. A dark brown linen worked in browns, old rose, green and gold is



LOTUS LILY DESIGN. FIG. 1.

very pretty, or terra-cotta linen worked entirely in dull blues, outlined with black is most attractive, or vice versa, dark blue worked in terra-cotta shades.

The herring-boning is usually of yellow or gold or else of the lightest shade used in the color scheme.

Only fast color embroidery cottons should be used, and in all solid work if care is taken to work the way of the cotton the work will be much smoother and handsomer, and especially after washing will the appearance pay for the extra trouble.

Always before threading the needle, if the cotton is passed between the fingers one can easily discover the right or wrong of the thread by the feeling and the fluff or nape.

When the thread gets frayed do not go on working with it, as that is bad economy resulting only in very unsatisfactory work.

The beauty of this work lies largely in the manner in which it is done. The stitches are simple but should be taken with care.

In satin-stitch, each stitch should lie close to the side of the last, with no material showing between. Do not pull your thread so as to wrinkle up the work, or let it lie loosely on the surface, as that is equally a fault and mars the evenness of the work. Scallops when not forming an edge to be cut out, should be worked from the curved to the straight edge. Fig. 5 shows the way in which a double leaf is worked. When nearing the end of the leaf go over the whole width with satin-stitch.

Algerian Embroidery

This is very pretty work which is also done on brown linens, but a coarser cotton similar to silk-teen is used, and most of the solid work is done in Oriental stitch (see Fig. 6). This is exactly like herring-bone stitch, with the exception that the needle comes out behind the last stitch and not in front of it as in herring-bone. Examine the way the needle is placed for each single stitch.

ORIENTAL STITCH. FIG. 6.

This stitch should be done closely enough so that none of the material shows between the stitches. It can be done very quickly and large spaces are filled up rapidly, no padding is necessary.

In this work the primary colors are used, red, dark blue and yellow usually predominating.

A good illustration of these designs which have a character of their own is shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8.

In Fig. 7 the flower is done in red scallops with dark blue satin-stitch center completely filling up the open space. This center is worked before the scallops, and the little leaf at the end is also dark blue, the ball near it being red.

The pointed leaf has a blue satin-stitch border, and the open space has red stitches taken across, secured by a yellow backstitch in the middle of each.

The other leaf has a yellow satin-stitch border, and the open space is filled up with red. A little satin-stitch, then a wheel and two French knots.

The stem of the flower is blue stem-stitch, and the tendrils red and yellow, and the triple leaf is in the three colors.

Fig. 8 shows another good design. The stem and calyx are dark blue, and the outer leaf of the flower is yellow outlined with red bars crossed with blue. Next comes a satin-stitch leaf outlined in red, and with dark blue satin-stitch center. The ball which springs from it is blue, and the other leaves are red and yellow. The heavy leaves coming from the sides of the flower are red and yellow, the tendrils under them being blue.

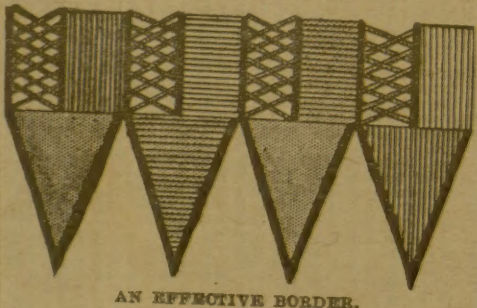
The bud has a yellow center with red outside, like the little balls which come from it, and the small leaf near is red.

In barring off any space, the bars should be done quite straight and at regular intervals. If one wishes them heavy, double thread can be used and, when all are completed, the little stitches can be taken, one stitch on a bar being enough if the space is narrow. If wide, then place more, putting those in the second row alternately.



ALGERIAN EMBROIDERY. FIG. 8.

Fig. 9 illustrates method of making French knots. Bring your thread to the front of the needle and twist it around three or more times, using the thread nearest the work and not the part near the eye of the needle. Hold down with your left-hand thumb, and then draw through and put your needle in again where it came out, bringing it out again where you wish the next knot to be. Cluster of these knots are often used for the center of flowers.



AN EFFECTIVE BORDER.

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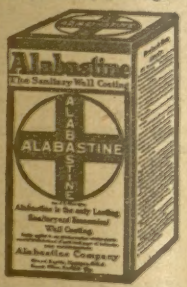
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HERE is March, the windy month. I would like to use some of March's surplus wind to blow some of the political rottenness out of this country.

Last fall there was a meeting of governors of the various states of the Union, and the proceedings of that body of dignitaries interested me vastly. There was one thing that all the governors were unanimous about and that was, that all so-called state's rights must be respected. The impertinence of two or three federal judges in setting aside state railway legislation angered the governors very much, and they are going to petition Congress to put a kibosh on these judicial buttinskies.

One thing, however, I notice that the governors did not discuss, and that was, the rottenness of the legislatures of most of the states over which they individually preside. How refreshing it would have been if the governors of New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Ohio for instance, had gotten up on their feet, and had said: "Gentlemen, nearly all the legislatures in the states we represent are rotten to the core. What can we do to reform and better them?" But you can bet your life there was no talk of that kind. The American idea is to talk a lot of high-falutin gush about everything in general and nothing in particular, and always to ignore the things that simply shriek for attention.

I often wonder why people crowd into the cities to listen to speeches made during a presidential tour. All they ever hear is a mass of meaningless words, never intended to hurt anybody, and for that matter never intended to help anybody; just talk, and at the talking game we have the rest of the earth lashed to the mast. How refreshing it would have been if the governor of Pennsylvania for instance had gotten up and talked about the 1911 session of the Pennsylvania legislature. For six months this body of political pin heads chinned, gabbed, wrangled, and as usual did nothing. The bills introduced filled some twenty thousand pages. If you had bound these pages into volumes of two hundred pages each, you would have had a hundred volumes—enough to have filled a small-sized library. I would wager a million if I had it, that not one legislator in the whole bunch, glanced over more than five per cent. of these bills. Not one single measure for the material benefit of the people of the second greatest commonwealth in these United States, was passed, but on the closing night of the legislature, scores of appropriation bills (the passing of which had been dickered for by both political machines, and which involved the expenditure of vast sums of public money, largely for the benefit of political partisans and private individuals), were rushed through with lightning speed. While hundreds of thousands, and I might add millions of dollars of the public money was being spent, the whole Assembly indulged in rowdiness. Spit balls were fired, and clowning became general. Politicians threw off the mask, and became the hoodlums and hoodlums they actually are.

What we have said of the Pennsylvania legislature is true also of the legislature of New York. The session was the longest in the history of that body. Practically nothing was accomplished during the entire session. Every legislator had, on an average a hundred bills a day placed on his desk, and two minutes each on an average was given to the consideration of these bills. As usual the people were betrayed by the men elected to represent them; the public weal was forgotten, the public will scorned, and the bidding of the boss of the most notorious political machine in this country was slavishly obeyed.

Remember these are the two greatest states in the Union, and what can be said of one state is nearly duplicated by all. For instance listen to what Senator Hooker of the Connecticut Legislature says. He is referring to the lawyers of a certain corporation: "I wish to voice my disgust at the actions of lawyers and lobbyists employed by ——— company. They walk in and out among us and tell us what to do. These lawyers stood by the side of Senator ——— during the debate and dictated the only amendment we were allowed to pass." Now if that does not make your star spangled blood boil what under heaven would?

At the closing of another legislature a little while ago, also in the East, wine circulated freely, and notorious women were brought by state law makers into the ante-rooms of the legislative chambers.

One thing is positively certain, and the sooner we realize it the better, if this sort of thing is allowed to continue, another Gibbons will soon be writing, not the "Decline and fall of the Roman Empire," but the fall and the obliteration of the United States of America. Remember that not a single one of these men who have brought disgrace and shame to the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut or other states, would ever have disconnected these commonwealths, unless you by your ballots had elected these men to office. You will all admit that it is a foolish thing to imagine that the dog's tail can wag the dog, we however, allow the public dog to be wagged, robbed, disgraced and generally bedeviled, by a political tail corrupt and shameless.

It is of little use to cry out against wrong and abuse, unless you can suggest a remedy. Conditions such as I describe that now exist here in the East, once existed in Oregon. When the legislature, which was simply a shameless body of political hirelings, met in Salem, the capital of that great commonwealth, a small army of scarlet women, proceeded to Salem from various western cities. Birds of a feather always flock together, and wild were the orgies that took place during the legislative session. You will ask what remedy for all this did Oregon find. The remedy (and Oregon is now probably the best governed state in the union) was this: The people of Oregon have taken the government of the state into their own hands. No political trickster can longer fool or bedevil them. The people of Oregon and of Maine and a few other states rule through the initiative and referendum. They can initiate their own legislation, or they can veto the laws passed by their legislatures, and above all this the people of Oregon also enjoy the right of recall which means that they can instantly fire their public hired men, when these men are false to their trust and betray those who elected them. California, by a tremendous majority has recently adopted the initiative and referendum and the recall, and also, has given the women (God bless them) the right to vote.

Let all our readers work for those principles which will shortly ring the death knell of the

corrupt politician, the shameless boss, cleanse the Augean stables of our national politics, and put the American nation, where, but for political parasites, it ever would have been, proudly in the front of civilized nations.

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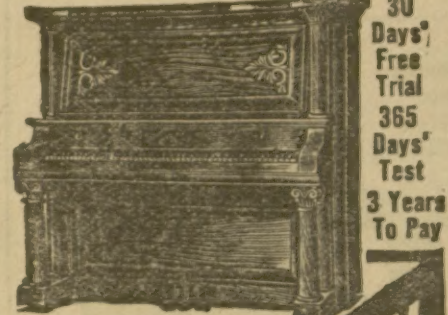
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Just as long as I have got one old hen that will bring twenty-five cents I expect to take COMFORT. Now I see when reading that a good number of the people call you Uncle Charlie and my wife calls you Uncle Charlie so I will call you Uncle Cholley too. Now then Uncle I have to buy my wife a new dress and then get off and cut and split a wagon load of stove wood and bring it to the house to get her to say God bless my old man just once. Now Uncle Charlie if you know of any easier way for me to get her to say God bless my old man than by cutting stove wood, I would be so thankful to you for your good advice. She shall have COMFORT though I have to cut stove wood to pay for it. Your nephew, (Hat Hal) H. B. DURDEN.

Brother Durden, I had a good laugh over your letter, and it made me so happy that directly I had read it I said: "God bless Mrs. Durden and her good hubby." You see I had to put your wife first, because I think ladies should always be first anyway. Please remember I said ladies, but always remember that there are three sexes, men, women and things or freaks, and as I have explained before there are male freaks and female freaks. You are lucky Brother Durden to have a real ministering angel for a wife, and so I know you will not mind me putting her ahead of you. I think there are many easier ways of making your wife say: "God bless my old man," than cutting a wagon load of stove wood. Let me suggest you crawl into the wood box and make a noise like a wagon load of stove wood, and also go up-stairs into your wife's chamber, lock yourself in the wardrobe and make a noise like a new silk dress, and you would save money and labor, and get all the blessings you could shake a stick at. Now, Brother Durden, it is a man's duty to cut the stove wood, and to buy his wife a new silk dress, just as it is your wife's duty to attend to your creature comforts. As a rule none of us expect high heaven to be invoked for a blessing when we do our simple duty. Now when your good wife implores heaven to bless me, it is not so much that she wants heaven to bless me as an individual, as she wants Providence to bless the ideas I am trying to implant in the hearts of our countrymen and women. Men should always remember that women are idealists. Men are material, women are spiritual. We know what men are by looking around us at this great country of ours. They have developed it wonderfully along material lines, they have built mighty bridges, ribbed the continent with railroads, erected towering skyscrapers, subdued nature in her wildest moods. Wherever a dollar has dangled before man's eyes, there has been displayed irresistible energy, skill, determination, heroism, and every other human quality that surmounts difficulties and conquers the seemingly unconquerable. On the other hand where the dollar was not a spur to action, and along the higher lines of honor, rectitude, honesty, true patriotism, righteousness, love and pity, man has been a laggard. The genius of the race that can conquer the air, annihilate space, subdue nature, could, if it had the will and the heart and soul conquer poverty, wrong and injustice, and offer the worn-out workers of the nation something better than a dog's death in a poor-

house. These things will all be accomplished in time, but they could, should and would be accomplished right here and now, if men had as much love for one another, as they have for dirty dollars. In other words if men worshiped God, instead of bowing down to an idol of gold, our attempt at self government in this country would not be so absurdly preposterous and ridiculous thing it is now. Congress meets year after year, talks and eternally talks hot air and poppycock about tariffs and business, but never talks along humanitarian lines. Do you think we will ever get a democratic or republican Congress that will have heart and soul enough to discuss poverty, human misery and wretchedness. No, we have a business man's government, a dollar government, and the cry of millions who are underfed, underpaid, overworked, over worried, harassed, bedeviled, never reaches the ears of our legislators, and if it did reach them, it would be utterly ignored. Our administrators prattle of prosperity, while their whole time is taken up in maneuvering for political advantages. The so-called prosperity simply means that men can work full time instead of half time. It does not mean that the enormous wealth that they are creating is going into their pockets. They are getting just enough to sustain their bodies, and that is all and they are mighty lucky if they get that. Our attempts at administering justice are as pitiful as our attempts at self government. Murderers die of old age. The arm of justice is paralyzed by technicalities, and the law is interpreted by men who owe to corrupt politicians the exalted positions they occupy, and who must often repay favors by tampering with the scales of justice, or be consigned to oblivion by the hand that placed them on the bench. The cancer of graft, corruption and indifference, pushes its poisonous roots down through every strata of our political and social life. Men are material. They know wrongs exist and always have existed, and for that reason they think they must always exist. Women being spiritual and also being the greatest sufferers from social injustice, and having hearts full of love and pity, rebel at conditions as they are, and yearn in their hearts to right them. When all women vote as they soon will, and realize the power that the ballot has put in their hands, we shall no longer have a government largely comprised of political nobodies. What the men have forgotten or neglected to do, the women will make them do, or do themselves. I, in my monthly talks have continually predicted this better time for humanity. I have striven in every way to fill you with a sense of horror and disgust with conditions as they are, and I have just as strenuously striven to hearten and encourage you by telling you what a glorious future awaits the masses of this country, if they will only break away from their servile allegiance to party bosses, and by a judicious use of brains and ballot, get the control of the government again into their own hands. Look what Oregon did. It fired its political vermin, and by the use of the initiative and referendum and right of recall, the people of that state actually rule instead of being ruled and betrayed by thugs as they once were. Now Brother Durden, remember your good wife has blessed me because I have worked long these lines, worked for the uplift of the race. You have been getting fewer blessings than I, because, though doing your duty nobly towards your wife and family, you possibly may not have been striving for the uplift of your fellow men. Possibly you have been voting as father used to vote, voting for your party whether it was right or wrong. So many millions of men are content to live and die without making a determined effort to get out of the Dead Sea of mental stagnation in which millions so hopelessly wallow. Now, if all you good husbands who read this article, want your wives to God bless you, and regard you as a hero and a crusader, just make a little speech to them along these lines: "Wife there is some-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)



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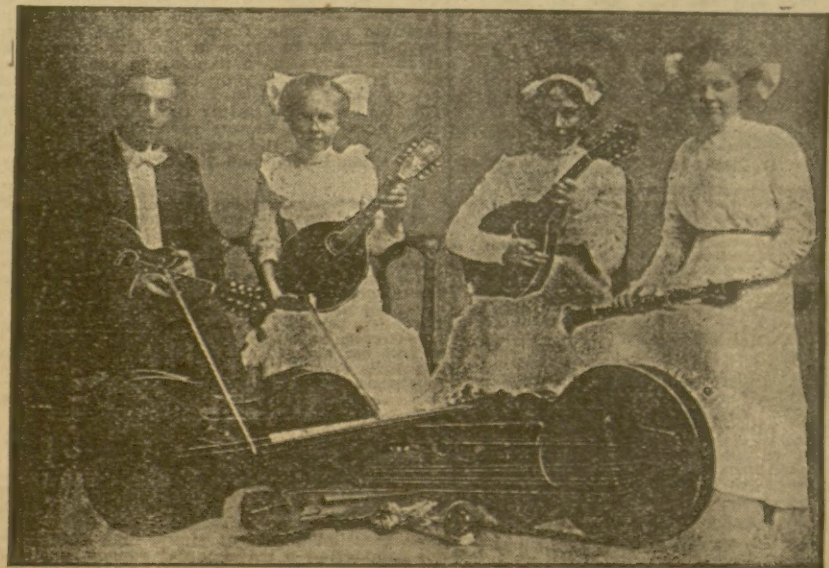
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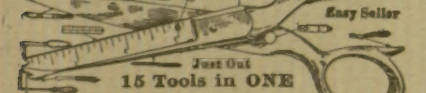
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Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

thing wrong in this country. There are too many jails, poorhouses, tramps and white slaves; too many parasitical politicians, too many red-handed, unpunished murderers, too many corrupt judges, too great an accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few, too much desperate poverty amongst the masses. Get-rich schemers rob the poor, lawless corporations oppress the masses, the square deal is unknown. Wealth and poverty rule, right is on the scaffold, wrong upon the throne. No longer will I be a prey to political bosses. I will study the great reform measures of the day. I will fight for principles, not men. No dollar can buy me, no man own me. The scales have fallen from my eyes. Yesterday I was blind, today I see my duty to my fellowmen, to the race and to God. For as long as I live I will fight and strive for the uplift of humanity, for the betterment of conditions under which we live, and for the establishment of a true democracy in which every man shall have an opportunity to develop the best that is in him. In a democracy in which every man shall be a king, every man a brother, a democracy whose principal business shall be the creation of men and not money-making machines, the production of happiness and the spreading of love and brotherhood, as against the heaping up of profits for a few and misery for the many. Now, Brother Durden, just spring that on your good wife some night, and you will not have to crawl into the woodbox and make a noise like a pile of wood, or into the wardrobe and make a noise like a silk dress to get a God bless you, in fact you will get more God bless you in a day than Uncle Charlie ever got in a million years, and best of all you will deserve them, and that is more than I ever did.

OBEY CITY, TENN.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
Here comes a boy from Tennessee. I would like to see one of my letters in the COMFORT. Well, uncle, I have had very bad luck. I got my ankle broke the 2 day of Dec. 1910.

You will have to excuse me for not writing better for my ankle is hurting me very bad and you know I can't write good propped up sitting on our little Sophy? Hear I lay and read the COMFORT and all of the letters?

My age is nineteen years old. I am five feet and eight inches tall, weight about one hundred and fifty and I live on a farm of one hundred acres. I live seven miles from the city of Monterey.

I have four sisters but they are married and left me to dance in the hog trough. Well we have been having some very cold weather and snows to.

I would be glad to exchange letters or postal with the cousins.

So good Bye

ALEX TUDOR.

That is quite a regal name you have Alex. If you are a descendant, as you doubtless are, of the famous Tudor family, which reigned over England during quite a long period of that country's history, you must have an illustrious family tree. I had quite a distinguished family tree, though I did not come over in the Mayflower—I swam over. My folks were quite proud of our family tree, but after I fell out of it one day and nearly broke my neck, that finished the family tree for me, and since then Billy the Goat has swam over it. Somebody told me I was descended from Adam. He did not say whether it was the Adam of the Garden of Eden, or the Adams Express, Adam. Billy the Goat says that the two Adams are very closely connected. He says that Adam one day was lonely, and so Eve was made for Adam's express company. You see the trusts began to get their grip on things at a very early stage of our history. Adam monopolized the only woman on earth. Anyway I don't care who I descended from, or what I descend from, so long as I don't descend from an air-ship or a balloon. People who descend from those kind of things generally get their necks broken. Alex, if you have any of the Tudor blood in your veins, don't let your neighbors know, or you will be disgraced forever. I am sorry your ankle is hurt. It is too bad that it affects your spelling and your "writing." You have an extra t in writing, and hurt, and a t in haft (have) so it is very evident that your ankle is tearing you terribly. You say you can't write good "propped up sitting on our little Sophy." It is no wonder you can neither write nor spell well, if you are sitting on "Sophy." Sophy must be an exceedingly good-tempered little girl, to permit you to make a sofa pillow out of her. I think you have an awful nerve to be making a pancake out of Sophy. She will be squashed so flat that it will be several weeks before she can get round again. Billy the Goat says he thinks you mean sofa. Let us fervently hope you do, as I'd hate to think of your dropping your one hundred and fifty pounds on top of anything that was human. You say your age is "nineteen" years. I have heard of nineteen, but I never heard of nineteen. I fear that sitting on little Sophy has had such an effect on you, that you don't exactly know how old you are. I am sorry that your sisters have left you to dance in the hog trough. Was it through too much dancing in the hog trough that you sprained your ankle? Alex your illustrious ancestors, Henry the Eighth and Queen Elizabeth would certainly turn in their graves, if they knew that anyone revelling in the family name of the royal house of Tudor, was dancing in the hog trough and sitting on little Sophy.

A young woman of many accomplishments wanted. A pretty Christian young woman wanted of good connections as life's companion by a moral, industrious young man of twenty-nine years of age that would make the right woman a good husband between the ages of twenty and twenty-five, dark hair, dark brown eyes, fair complexion, medium height, weighing about one hundred and twenty-five or one hundred and thirty-five pounds. Would want her to be a good housekeeper, to have some money that she would like to help her husband pay for a nice little home in a nice little country town. Anyone wishing to fill all these requirements can send your name and address to:

UNCLE CHARLIE.

(Very kind of the writer to have these letters addressed to me, but I warn our readers not to reply as no letters will be forwarded.)—Uncle Charlie.

Willie, Walter, Wallace or whatever your name may be, I get scores of letters from COMFORT readers, asking me to secure wives for them. I have mentioned several times that COMFORT is not a matrimonial agency, and I am not a matrimonial agent. A good many COMFORT cousins have found mates within the League, but that has been at their own risk, and something they themselves have been entirely responsible for. Personally I think every state should conduct a matrimonial bureau, and if it were conducted by high-minded men and women in an altruistic manner, that is solely in the interest of others, great good would result. There is a scarcity of marriageable women in the West, an abundance of them in the East. If marriageable men and marriageable women were brought together, there would be fewer patrons of white slave resorts, and fewer victims of the damnable traffic in human bodies and souls. Now, Bill, I was far from flattered by your letter. You ought to know that a matrimonial agent has the worst kind of a reputation, and Uncle Sam generally gets after those who use the mails to promote that kind of business. People ought to remember the fate of a certain fabled creature in the middle west, who through a matrimonial agency lured men to her home and robbed and murdered them, and had her whole backyard full of slaughtered victims. I am always suspicious of a man who can't pick a wife in his own neighborhood. There are more women than men in most sections of this country, and the man has the bulge in the picking and can always find a mate. In Paraguay, South America, there are five women to one man, so if a fellow is any sort of a fellow at all, there is always a nice little girl in his home town that he has known from childhood, ready to be his life partner. The writer of the foregoing

letter is like the rest of his kind, on the lookout for a girl with money. He says: "One with a little money would do," but if a thousand women replied, the odds are that the one who had the biggest wad would be the one he would select. Only one thing justifies matrimony, and that is love. A marriage based on dollars makes matrimony not a sacrament but a business proposition, and a marriage of that kind generally ends in the divorce court before it has been well consummated. Bill, if you are a moral, industrious young man, for heaven's sake wait a year or two until you have enough money to provide a home for your bride, and don't go advertising all over America for a woman who has cash, to help you buy a home. If I were a woman I would have mighty little respect for a man who wanted me to pay for half the home, and probably when it came to a show down, the woman would not only have to pay for half the home, but all of it, and also have to support the moral industrious young man who proposed to share it with her as well. Bill is very modest in his requests. He wants his bride to be a Christian, youthful, beautiful, of good family, must have a certain kind of complexion (it might cost her an awful lot of money to buy the kind of complexion that he wanted) and she would have to weigh just so much or she would go overboard. Then too, she would have to be a good housekeeper so she could see that the house her money had bought did not run away. She would have to be an expert at chasing out the cats, a prize pig pusher, bean shooter, soup squiter, dough puncher, and a medal taker as a cook stove and wash tub juggler, and she would have to have a wad of greenbacks that would choke a cow, or she would not size up to the moral young man's requirements. Bill, if you hunted the entire United States with a small tooth comb you would not find the perfection you are looking for, and if you did find her and told her what your business was she would annihilate you with a look, and then with a voice of withering scorn ejaculate: "Beat it while your boots are hot." Another thing in your letter Bill, you don't say whether the lady you require is to be white or colored. Now, suppose I found you a nice white young lady, and you wanted one yellow, pink or black, you would not do a thing to me. You say that you would make the right woman a good husband between the ages of twenty and twenty-five; and as you are already twenty-nine that means that you possibly would not make her a good husband at all. I have got my ideas about young, moral, industrious young man who only wants to be a good husband for five years of his married life. Maybe you have got your punctuation wrong. Anyway whether it is right or wrong, I am glad I can't help you. If you had kept the money question out of your letter, and not been so exacting in your requirements, I might have offered you the hand and heart of Billy the Goat. My advice is, save your money until you can provide a home for a good woman, and look for the good woman among the girls in your town or county. Matrimony is too serious a business to be tainted with dollars. Deprived of courtship and reduced to a speculative business marriage is a sin. I am sorry, Bill, but I can't start a matrimonial bureau. The only bureau I ever had in my chicken coop Billy the Goat swallowed, and my pants were in the top drawer, and I have no heart to acquire another of any description, especially one of the variety you require.

ALTOONA, PA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:
Will you allow a Pennsylvania girl to sit on your knee? Now Uncle please pardon my writing and spelling, as my education has been somewhat limited, on account of sickness still I shall strive to get a fair education, so I can be independent, as I think there is nothing so great, as being able to take care of yourself, so as not to become a burden or care to anyone. Don't you think that way Uncle?

I live in Altoona, a city of about fifty thousand population. Altoona has many good churches and schools, also many beautiful residents. But I think it has more hotels than anything else, although I should like to say "it hasn't any."

I am seventeen years old, have blue eyes, and dark hair, which I wear hanging down my in curls, tied with a large black bow of ribbon. I am the only girl and baby of the family, but I am proud to say that I have three noble brothers, all doing well.

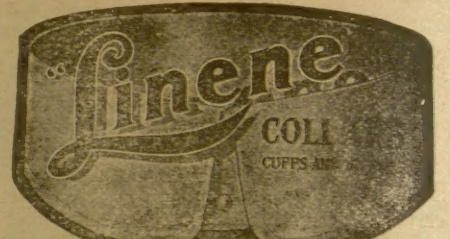
I shall be glad to hear from any of the cousins; and shall try to answer all who write me. I should love to read the letters sent in by them, they are always so interesting to me.

Uncle Charlie I should love to grasp and shake that noble right hand of yours; as I love to read the witty things it writes on different subjects.

Uncle I am writing to you because I love you. Lovingly your niece,

JOSEPHINE SPADE.

Thank you, Josephine, for your letter. Your handwriting is a treat to read. You need not apologize for a lack of education. You do far better than many high school graduates. That is right, my dear, try with all your might to be independent as far as you can of others, especially try not to be a burden to others, as most people have all the burdens they can bear without having someone leaning on them as well. There is nothing more heartrending than to be dependent on others when sickness and old age come on. I read in the papers the other day that even the daughters of the lordly nobility of England are learning shorthand and typewriting, nursing, etc., so when the long threatened upheaval comes in England, as it is going to come in every country on the earth, all the parasites that have been sitting on the back of labor all down through the ages, will get dumped rudely to earth, and will be told to go and earn their living. Lady Clara Beer, the Duchess of Doodlesdocks, and the Countess of No Account, can then go out and pound typewriters, wrestle with the wash-tub, dally with the cook stove and squirt dope through a hose in the local hospitals. The people in this country are bearing enough burdens to break the back of a cast-iron elephant. They are taxed for everything they eat and wear; they are taxed for being born, taxed for living, taxed for dying, in fact they are full of taxes—I mean tax, and the result of this taxation and the burdens they bear is that the country is smothered with poorhouses, paupers and tramps, prisons and millionaires. Ten per cent. of the people own nearly all the money there is in the country, and the other ninety per cent. have to get along the best they can on the few pennies that have not been taxed out of them. So you see we have national burdens as well as individual ones, and it keeps one's nose at the grindstone trying to carry them all. You say that Altoona has many beautiful residents. I am delighted to hear there are so many handsome people in Altoona. I was in Al-



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toona some years ago. It certainly had one beautiful resident when I was there if it never had one before. I never heard anyone boasting of a city having many beautiful residents, and I think Josie you mean residences and not residents. I am sorry that I can't rubber at some of your beautiful residents, for I am a great admirer of beauty. Handsome is, however, as handsome does, and I am more concerned with what your residents do than how they look. If your city has more hotels than anything else I am afraid it is on the blink. Men who take their families to hotels and let their wives lie around all day in kimono and idleness ought to be spanked. A man will fight and die for his home, but the man never yet lived who would fight and die for his boarding house or hotel. He will curse it and want to swear at it, but he will not fight for it. It is happy, contented homes we want, not hotels and casinos. We have not got enough red corpuscles in their blood to either run a home or bring children into the world, and would rather mother a pug dog than a baby. Satan always finds some mischief for idle hands, and it is the women who hang around in boarding houses and hotels who keep the divorce mills busy. You say you have dark hair, which you wear hanging down in curls. Hanging down what, Josie? Hanging down your neck,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.)

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Any COMFORT subscriber can have the advice of our Agricultural Staff free on questions relating to farming, live stock and dairying. The answers will be printed in this department and will be interesting and instructive to all who are concerned in farming.

Write your questions plainly on one side of the paper only; give your full name and address. Write your letter to COMFORT'S MODERN FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

Another Way of Testing Corn

In all cases where special care has not been taken of the seed corn this year it will be found to be low in vitality and much of this corn will not grow. If the season should be unfavorable weak seed will rot in the ground. This is true this season because of the extremely cold weather which has undoubtedly frozen much corn that will be used for seed next spring. Corn selected from the crib or left hanging outside exposed to the air even if under cover absorbed moisture and the freezing of this moisture has expanded the germ and injured its vitality. We cannot afford to plant corn that we are not absolutely sure will grow. The extremely cold weather extended over all of the corn-growing states and it may be accepted as a fact that there is a large amount of poor, weak seed that is intended for planting this year. A little time, patience and work between now and planting time will save the crop.

Now don't shell all the corn and mix good and bad together and test it. Some farmers do this and if they find half the kernels are bad they double the amount of seed. This is poor business. Better get new seed as the other half of the kernels are almost certain to be poor and weak, when the percentage is so high.

A better way is to test six kernels from each ear before each is shelled. Then reject the bad ears. This looks like a big job but in reality it is very simple. Prepare a box twenty-five inches wide, fifty inches long and about four inches deep. Fill this full of sawdust (or sand) and pack it down. Spread over the sawdust a piece of cotton cloth that you have marked off in squares two and one half inches each way. Number these squares from one to two hundred. Now number the ears in the same order. Place six kernels from each ear number one in square number one; six more from ear number two in square number two, and so on until the box is filled up. Finally place another cloth carefully over these kernels and put moist sawdust on top. Keep this tester moist and in a room at ordinary temperature for six or seven days, then carefully roll back the top cloth. Reject all ears that do not show at least five good kernels out of the six.

Too much bother? Well let us see. Suppose by using good seed you are able to increase your yield of corn just one bushel per acre. The two hundred ears in the box above will not require for testing more than a day's time, all told, and will plant fifteen acres of corn. This will mean fifteen bushels of corn as the price of that day's work. At sixty cents a bushel the day's wages will be \$9. But it is more than probable that this precaution will increase the yield of corn ten bushels per acre instead. In this case the day's time spent in testing the seed would be worth \$90, pretty good wages! Do you suppose it will pay to test YOUR seed corn?

Danger in Moldy Corn

Just at present hundreds of horses are being killed in many different parts of the country by what is commonly termed "staggers" or "blind staggers" and technically known as "cerebro spinal meningitis." The cause is moldy, damaged or worm-eaten corn. In some instances the horses contracted the disease from biting off affected tips of ears, when husking in the standing crop. More often the trouble has come from eating moldy shredded corn fodder containing affected corn; and often it is induced by the feeding of nubbins and ear corn seen to be moldy. There is lots of that dangerous kind to be moldy. If the horses are to be saved it must be kept away from them. The fall was wet and corn had to wait a long time before being husked, or cut and shocked, or shredded from the shock. This gave rise to the unusual amount of damaged corn and as other feed has been scarce horses more than ever before have been pastured in stalk fields or have been fed damaged corn. Less danger is present when the affected corn or fodder, is made a part ration with good hay and oat straw; but then there is some danger. The best way to feed damaged corn is to shell it and then throw the corn into water before feeding. Damaged or moldy kernels will float and if these are skimmed off, the balance may be safely fed. What a simple plan this is, and how few have heard of it! Put it into practice now and remember it for future reference. It should be mentioned in this connection that moldy silage will kill horses as sure as a shotgun; so do not throw such silage into the yard where horses are running. Let it be understood too that frozen silage is dangerous; but it is safe feed when thawed out. Frozen beets and beet tops also are dangerous. If they mold or ferment after thawing out. It is good policy to feed only sound grain and fodder to horses.

Preventing Potato Scab

Formalin, or formaldehyde solution is also used to treat seed potatoes for the prevention of scab.

The disease is due to the fungus known as "oosporea scabae." It covers the potato with sore-like blotches. Only the surface may be affected, or the fungus may penetrate and break down the potato substance to the center. This disease may not be wholly preventable, but it is the most readily held in check of the various diseases to which potatoes are liable. The fungus lives over winter in the soil. For that reason another crop of potatoes should not follow a scabby crop. It is best to abandon affected soil for four or five years, so far as potato production is concerned. Other crops will not be attacked. Unless the seed potatoes are known to be perfectly free from scab they should be treated for destruction of the fungus. There are two methods:

CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE TREATMENT.—Dissolve two ounces of corrosive sublimate (bichloride of mercury) in two gallons of hot water. When the corrosive sublimate is dissolved, add cold water to make fourteen gallons in all. Having put the seed potatoes in a gunny sack, place the sack in the solution and leave it there for one and a half hours. Then empty the potatoes out upon a floor to dry before cutting and planting. If they can be left thus exposed to the light and air for a few days they will grow all the better. As corrosive sublimate is a deadly poison keep animals away from the treated seed. The solution must be made in wooden vessels, as the sublimate corrodes metal.

FORMALIN TREATMENT.—Soak the seed potatoes for two hours in a solution of 15 gallons of water and one and one half pint of formalin. Smaller or larger quantities in the same proportion. Dry the soaked seed, cut and plant as usual. It is well to remember that disinfected seed will be re-infected if it is put back into dirty sacks or boxes from which it was taken. If to be used again, disinfect the sacks and boxes also.

Preventing Oat Smut

Almost everywhere oats are more or less damaged by smut each year. The smut is a fungus that starts when the seed germinates. It grows inside the stalks, lives on the nutrient which should feed the plant, checks growth and ends by turning the seed grains into a black powder which is made up of the spores from which smut grows. If this black powder gets onto the seed grain sown the following year the result will be a crop of oats again damaged by smut. The smut trouble means the loss of ten to twenty bushels of oats, per hundred bushels produced. If any farmer doubts this he should follow the advice of the Indiana Experiment Station authorities (Bulletin No. 103) by going into his oat field and counting every stalk, little and big, to the extent of 500 to 1000 in different parts of the field, making note of the number of stalks that are blasted with smut. This actual count will show him the proportion, or per centage of affected stalks and the results will be a surprise. It is not necessary to lose oats from smut. The trouble can be cheaply prevented. The cost of prevention is about one and one half cents per bushel of seed treated.

METHOD OF TREATMENT.—It is a simple method, requiring no special precautions. Sprinkle the seed oats with a solution of formalin to the strength of one pound of formalin to 50 gallons of water until nearly moist enough to pack in the hand, shovel into a pile and cover. After two hours or more the oats are ready to sow, or can be spread out and dried and kept for future sowing.

Let us Spray

The farmer who does not spray his fruit trees, his potatoes and some other crops is behind the times. It pays to do so. It means loss of money and time to go without spraying. Spraying means a profit, when without it none would be made. It is the salvation of the old orchard and the district where fruit tree pests abound. Make it a practice to spray each year. Read up on the subject. The different agricultural experiment stations will supply bulletins on the subject. We shall be glad to answer questions about it. Bulletins 4 and 93 of the West Virginia Station at Morgantown, are good ones and are perhaps available to many of our readers. As a large apple tree will require one to two gallons of solution at each application do not depend upon the local druggist for supplies. Send off for what you need long before it is needed. Keep all spraying materials away from animals and people to prevent poisoning them. Wash the spray pump in clear water each time after using. A good hand pump costs \$12 to \$30; but it soon pays for itself. For large orchards a power sprayer is needed.

Here are some of the mixtures most commonly employed for spraying:

BORDEAUX MIXTURE.—The chief fungus killer for apples. Take five pounds of copper sulphate (bluestone), five pounds of fresh lime and 50 gal-

lons of water. Suspend the copper sulphate in a cheese-cloth bag in 3 gallons of hot water in a wooden tub or earthen jar; pour into barrel and fill half full with cold water. Slack the lime in a separate tub; add 4 to 5 gallons water and stir freely. Pour this milk of lime, through cheese-cloth or brass strainer, into the dilute copper sulphate, stirring constantly. Fill the barrel with cold water.

DILUTE BORDEAUX.—Copper sulphate, 3 pounds; lime, 5 pounds; water, 50 gallons. Prepare as above. This is safer for general use as it is less likely to cause russeting of the fruit. Use it for "apple scab," "frog eye" and "bitter rot," spraying about once in two or three weeks during the season, if moist; less often if hot and dry.

SCALE DESTROYERS.—Spray in fall winter, or very early spring, when the trees are dormant. **LIME-SULPHUR MIXTURE.**—Fresh lime, 20 pounds; sulphur, 15 pounds; water, 50 gallons. Place the lime and the sulphur in a cask and slake the lime with a small amount of water. Add about 10 gallons of water and boil for one hour, preferably by injecting live steam, or by placing in an iron kettle and boiling over a fire. For use, dilute to 50 gallons.

SOLUBLE OILS.—Oil, one gallon; water, 20 gallons. Target Brand Scale Destroyer, "Scalecide," "Kill-o-scale," and other commercial oil preparations are easily used and are effective scale destroyers. They should not be used after the buds swell.

SOME POISON.—The leading insecticides for summer use are arsenate of lead and Paris green.

ARSENATE OF LEAD.—Take 3 pounds of arsenate of lead and 50 gallons of water, or of Bordeaux mixture. Mix. Arsenate of lead is in the form of a thick white paste which dissolves readily in water. It adheres to the foliage for a long time and does not "burn" the leaves. For codling moth (apple worms) and plum curculio; also for canker worm, tent caterpillar and all insects which cut the leaves.

PARIS GREEN.—Take one quarter pound Paris green, 3 pounds lime and 50 gallons of water or Bordeaux mixture. Mix the Paris green with one pint of water, forming a paste; then add to the whole quantity of water. If used with Bordeaux mixture, the extra lime, mentioned above, is not required. To prevent wormy fruit, spray with one of these poisons as soon as the blossoms fall, and again about two weeks later. We are indebted to the West Virginia Station for these formulae and details so they may be considered authentic and safe.

NOTE.—In this connection we wish to advise our readers that the Bordeaux Mixture also is effective for spraying potatoes to prevent early and late blight. It costs \$3 to \$6 dollars per acre to spray potatoes, but this outlay pays where blights are prevalent. Insects, such as potato bugs, are controlled by the same sprays and methods of spraying. It is a two-fold operation. Spray first when the plants are six to eight inches above ground; then spray twice more at intervals of 10 to 14 days. This is for early blight; but if late blight threatens it is necessary to continue spraying till five applications have been made.

Other excellent bulletins on spraying are: Farmers' Bulletins, Nos. 91 and 243, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. No. 72, Vermont Station, Burlington, Vt. Nos. 241 and 272, New York Station, Geneva, N. Y.

Questions and Answers

SALT BUSH NUISANCE.—Will you please tell me how to get rid of salt grass? A Subscriber, Vaila, Cal. A.—We take it that you mean "salt bush," and if that is so, it is gotten rid of by irrigation, to force other rank growths of green stuff, the plants being kept down by what additional hoeing is needed after plowing for the seeding of the farm crop. You did not sign your name to your inquiry as required by the instructions printed under the heading of this department to which we call your attention and that of all others who write us. The full name and address must always be given by correspondents for our information, but initials only will be printed if so requested.

GROWING OATS.—Can a good crop of oats be raised on clay and heavy soil combined with ground sloping to southeast? 2. How many bushels should I expect to get from one acre and what is the best seed oats for above soil? Can I plant seed in spring early? 3. Can they be grown on same kind of soil and what kind of seeds would you advise? This ground was plowed up last year in spring for first time in ten years, it has been laying idle during those years. 4. If hen manure is spread lightly over the aforesaid soil, at this time of year will it benefit in any way a truck garden to be planted on same next spring? If not what would you advise spread over ground?

HARRISON M. WATERMAN, Middleboro, N. Y. A.—Certainly; provided soil has not been so much cropped or washed that it has become sterile. Judge from the experience of farmers in the district we do not estimate crop yields as that depends upon so many different factors with which we cannot become acquainted. Get a bulletin from your state agricultural experiment station relative to varieties of seed grains best adapted for your district. 2. Land is seeded to oats just as soon as state of weather and soil will allow in spring. 3. Yes. Timothy grass and red clover. 4. The hen manure spread out thin at this time of year will greatly benefit garden crops. Used in spring it has to be well mixed or composted with earth as it is strong or "hot" enough to injure plants. As you are asking simple questions relative to every-day practice we would strongly advise you to follow the experience of old farmers in your district.

SOIL ANALYSIS.—I would like to know where I could have a little of my soil analyzed. Can you refer me to some chemist who would do it? F. F. Klein, Mont. A.—Address a letter on the subject to the Director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station at Bozeman, Mont., and he will instruct you how to proceed as to taking a sample and arranging to have the analysis made.

HEADQUARTERS MORNING GLORY.—What would you advise to get rid of morning glory that has overgrown a garden? Mrs. J. STANLEY CORNER, Philippi, W. Va. A.—This pest (large and small variety of field convolvulus) is very difficult to eradicate as it grows from either seed or bits of underground stem. Where it is present in a field seeding to alfalfa and the frequent cutting of that plant soon get rid of the pest. In a garden it has to be destroyed by persistent use of the hoe and salt. The latter will also kill other green stuff, but one has to sacrifice something for a time in order to get rid of the nuisance. Isolate the infested spot, as plowing or harrowing through it onto clean land will soon "smut" the clean land with the weed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23.)

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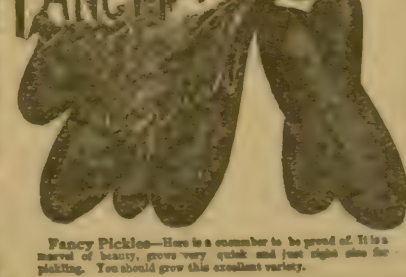
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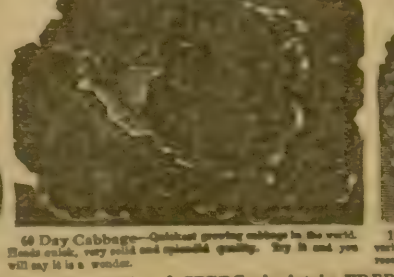
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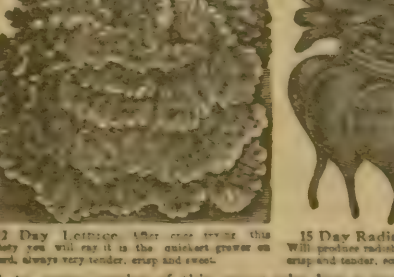
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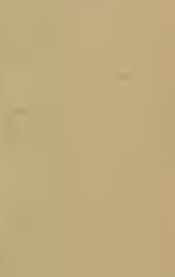
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Useful Household Hints

Some things that experience, economy and thrift have taught women about the home and its furnishings; the repair, care and laundering of clothes; cooking, kitchen and other hints of assistance to the housewife.

Turpentine will remove tar.
Water and soda will remove machine oil.
Salt thrown on burning fat will prevent odor.
Wax your silk when mending gloves to prevent its cutting.

Vinegar and salt will clean blackened mica in stove doors.
Finely ground, dried coffee grounds make good placushions.

Apple peelings roasted on top of stove will kill unpleasant odors.

When ironing, stand on a rug as it will prevent fatigue to the whole body.

Ironing with too hot an iron fades more garments than washing or sun.

To reheat rolls, brush the tops over with cold water or milk and place in hot oven.

The beaten white of an egg applied to a burn is cooling and quickly stops the pain.

Citron will cut easily if covered with boiling water and allowed to stand a few minutes.

The cut surface of a raw potato dipped in brick dust will clean rusty and blackened knives.

To clean brass, cut a lemon and sprinkle with salt. Rub with this and then with a polishing cloth.

When pulling threads on fine material, rub on a little soap and the work will be made much easier.

When poaching eggs that are not strictly fresh, add a little vinegar to prevent whites from spreading.

The odor of perspiration is removed by bathing with soda and water, one teaspoonful to one pint of water.

A little ammonia and borax in the water when washing blankets keeps them soft and prevents shrinkage.

If hot pies when first taken from the oven are put on cold plates a soggy under-crust will be the result.

When driving in winter, a few layers of newspapers across the chest and back will keep out a lot of cold.

Sprigs of fresh peppermint laid around the haunts of mice will drive them away. Oil of annis works equally well.

When drawnwork in table or bureau covers is worn out, stitch insertion over it, cut out underneath and finish edges.

An excellent mat on which to set dishes that readily stick, or when slow cooking is desirable, is a common bread toaster.

Lamp wicks dipped in strong vinegar and dried before putting into lamp will prevent smoking and add to brilliancy of light.

When the metal comes off the end of a shoe lacing, wind it with black thread for about an inch, then dip in glue and dry.

When washing dishes used in cooking fish, add a tablespoonful of vinegar to destroy that "fishy" taste which is liable to remain.

Lamps will not smoke if with a sharp pair of scissors the lamp is trimmed the shape of burner and a small V cut from center.

A pair of cotton blankets make better lining than cotton batten. They require little tacking, and can be washed successfully.

When baking potatoes, rub dry and grease. This causes the outer skin to peel off very thin, thus saving the most nourishing part.

Never put meat directly onto the ice as it draws out both juice and flavor. Place in pan or platter. This also applies to dressed fish.

In using stamps wet the corner of envelope instead of the stamp, and particularly so if unavoidably you have to moisten with tongue.

If furs are put into newspapers before the moths have begun their work, they will never be eaten, for they will not touch printer's ink.

When the string around a package cannot be untied, and there is neither knife nor scissors at hand, strike a match and burn the string.

Starch will not stick to irons if boiled twenty minutes; neither will a thick coat form over the top if stirred occasionally until partly cooled.

If you sew a tape on the bottoms of children's drawers so that it can be slipped under the heel, they can put on their own stockings smoothly.

Small pieces of old cloth kept in a bag tacked to the inside of sink door are useful to scour and clean with, thereby saving a good dish-cloth.

Before washing lace collars, closely baste them on a piece of white cloth to prevent their being stretched or torn. Iron wet without starching.

When marking your linen with ink, first make the letters with a sharp pointed pencil, and over this trace with the ink which will prevent spreading.

To prevent fringes becoming "lumpy" on table linen, etc., hang to dry without wringing. Just before ironing, with a whisk broom brush straight.

If you wish to iron an article as soon as it is sprinkled, use boiling hot water and apply it with a whisk broom. It need only stand a few minutes.

A medium-sized flatiron placed under the machine head with square end toward presser foot makes an ideal guide for stitching deep tucks and hems.

Wings and quills may be cleaned by gently shaking them in a box of fine corn meal. Remove any particles of meal that may adhere with a soft brush.

For people who feel insecure when walking out of doors in winter, especially older people, a great help is to glue pieces of felt to soles and heels of rubbers.

Stains on wood caused by hot dishes may be removed by a vigorous rubbing of kerosene oil, followed by a few drops of alcohol rubbed dry with a soft cloth.

Very dirty painted walls are easily cleaned with soda water, using one half cup of soda to a pail of water. Wipe with a dry cloth as each section is washed.

To remove grease from carpets or rugs, cover spots with Fuller's earth and wet with turpentine. Cover with paper and at the end of two days brush clean.

When making aprons it is well to make the fronts double, so that when they wear through it is an easy matter to cut out the worn part, turn in the edge and stitch.

About five inches above your pantry shelf put up a small brass curtain rod behind which to stand kettle covers and tin plates. It should be about two inches from wall.

Blankets that have shrunken too short to tuck under mattress should have an eighteen-inch long piece of cloth as wide as the blanket sewed on to one end to hold them in place.

Old Brussels or tapestry rugs when worn out may be turned over and given two coats of paint and used in front of commodes or other places where water is liable to be spilled.

If you are a little late about putting your potatoes into bake, cover them with boiling water

until heated through and then place in oven. They will immediately begin to bake.

Lace that has become yellow and is too fragile to rub, may be bleached by dipping several times in strong cream of tartar water. Do not let it soak, and rinse in several waters.

When pillow cases that are made from tubing begin to show signs of wear, rip the closed end and sew again so that the edges will come through middle of flat sides, thus reversing the wear.

When making lemon or orange jelly, peel off the outside rind that contains the oil and drop into the boiling water a few minutes before pouring it over the gelatine. It greatly improves the flavor.

Before blacking the stove, draw the ends of fingers across a bar of hard soap, scratching off enough to fill under the nails, and so keep the blacking from lodging there, which is so difficult to remove.

Cut to fit and glue pieces of felt or heavy wool cloth to bottoms of chair legs, that are used on bare floors. Besides saving injury to the floor, it prevents the unpleasant noise caused by moving chairs about.

Always hang a broom or stand on handle if you want it to do good work. When the broom becomes worn and some turned at end of straw, stand in a pail of hot soap suds for half an hour and hang up to dry.

To set the color in blue cotton goods, make a solution of four tablespoonfuls of alum to one gallon of water. Thoroughly wet cloth by working up and down and squeezing; Rinse and hang to dry in shady place.

The freezing and blowing of table linen when hung to dry out of doors in winter injures it more than anything else. A better way is to take linen from the wringer, roll in a dry sheet a few minutes and iron.

When washing one-piece dresses, sweaters, flannel shirt-waists, or children's coats, hang on a wooden coat hanger to dry, fastening it to the line with a string. They will be more shapely than when pinned to line.

To mend a leak in a hot water bottle, have the surface dry and clean, cover break with mending tissue, and over this a piece cut from an old kid glove. With several thicknesses of paper over all, press with a fairly hot iron.

Instead of warming the butter when making cake in cold weather (a process which always makes the cake heavy) warm the sugar in a moderate oven or in a double boiler, and then cream the butter and sugar together.

When ironing a shirt-waist, do the sleeves first, next the back and at the same time go well under the arms and towards the fronts. In this way one part of the waist will not be wrinkled while the remainder is being ironed.

When washing old lace or muslin curtains, fold them a number of times before putting into water. Put them through several soapy waters, squeezing instead of rubbing and do not unfold, as this prevents their becoming broken.

Sometimes a lamp will stream and blacken the ceiling so that it is very unsightly. In such a case, mix starch with cold water, having it quite thick. Apply to ceiling, let remain some hours and lightly brush off with soft brush.

When the rind of oranges and lemons are fresh and soft, with a sharp knife remove the outer skin that contains the oil, and drop into a jar of granulated sugar. The sugar will absorb the oil, flavoring it deliciously for cake, cookies, etc.

When washing heavy bedspreads, after putting through the last rinse water, do not wring but carry to line in a pail and hang up wet. The weight of water will cause the spread to dry nearly smooth, and the water will also whiten it.

When bunches of bristles fall from carpet sweeper they may be replaced by those from a worn-out dust brush. Cut a bunch from brush, wind one end and glue into vacant hole. Trim to the proper length and your sweeper is as good as new.

When a rug breaks, and before it has actually pulled apart, turn face down and place a piece of mending tissue large enough to more than cover worn part, and over this a piece of cotton cloth. With a hot iron, press the cloth and the tissue will "set" making the rug as strong as ever.

Always keep a supply of old white cotton cloth, old towels and napkins in a kitchen drawer. Hemmed squares of cheese-cloth are handy to place over pitchers of soup, cream, milk, etc., as well as to wrap around roasts to prevent their drying.

A lace yoke may be cleaned without removing it from the dress if these directions are followed: Make a thick paste of starch and water, and with an old tooth-brush apply to every part of lace, allowing it to remain three days, when it is carefully brushed off.

Keep a pair of shears in your pantry and you will find they have many uses. A torn lettuce leaf may be trimmed into shape; raisins are better cut than chopped; useful in preparing a chicken to bake; to cut papers for tins; to cut fruit, celery, and meat for salads, etc.

An excellent floor polish is made as follows: Shave yellow beeswax into turpentine, until when dissolved, it becomes the consistency of cream. Remove every particle of dust from floor and apply with a soft cloth and polish immediately with a clean flannel cloth.

When removing old paper from the wall, apply with an old broom a very thin flour paste. The paper will soon cleave from the wall, and won't dry as readily as when warm water is used and often again adheres to the wall before you get around to removing it.

Linoleum should be cut in proper lengths and laid face down on a floor several days before it is fitted, as it always stretches some, and this cannot be correctly estimated owing to the variation in quality. Otherwise there will either be a bulging or spaces at the edges.

Carpets and rugs are worn more by the use of old and badly kept brooms than most people realize. For this purpose a broom should be especially kept, and once a week be dipped in hot suds to make it pliable. Always hang a broom to prevent the ends turning to one side.

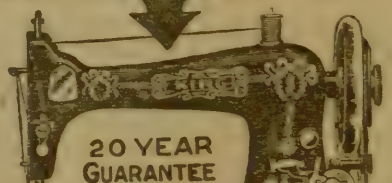
When lettuce comes into the kitchen, cut each leaf from stem and toss into a pan of cold water. When crisp, rinse and lay into a wet towel where it will keep fresh for days in a cool place, and is ready for use. Celery can be treated the same way, except that it is not cut apart.

Children can be kept busy for hours on stormy days by making them aprons of bright colored cambric, and if they are old enough allowing them to paste pictures upon them. When the novelty

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is worn off, lay them away to be brought out again on a rainy day, when they will again be hailed with delight.

In fitting a new key, hold it in the flame from a candle or wood fire until thoroughly smoked and carefully introduce it into the keyhole, pressing it hard against the opposing wards of the lock, and when it is withdrawn the indentations on the smoked part of the key will show you where to file.

Olive or Castor oil will prolong the life of patent leather shoes, belts, bags, etc. Take a very soft cloth (an old handkerchief is the best) and very sparingly rub a little of the oil into it and go over the leather, getting into every crease. Rub until perfectly clean, and then with a fresh cloth rub again.

Few realize that a custard will keep on cooking from the heat of the dish sometime after being taken from oven, and cause it to "weep" when it seemed "just right." Fact is, it should be taken from oven a little under done, or if it cooks done sooner than expected, set immediately into a dish of cold water.

Here is a help to those who make their underwear dainty with ribbons. When removing the ribbon prior to sending garment to the laundry, tie a narrow piece of tape to the end of ribbon, then when the ribbon is pulled out, the tape may be drawn through. Use the same method in restoring ribbon to place.

For those who have little chance for table room in their kitchen can use the ironing board for various purposes by making a cover of white enamel cloth. Make three inches larger than table seat tapes to each side so they can be tied underneath. This prevents soiling ironing board cover, and is easily removed.

That your silk skirt may retain its freshness and wear longer, sew loops underneath the flounce and always hang skirt by these. Hanging the frills in an opposite direction from what they are worn makes them stand out and prevents the set folds and creases which brings the wear on only a part of the skirt.

Try making kitchen mats in this way: Take a piece of heavy canvas, the kind used for sails is the best, and with a paint brush apply a very thick coat of flour paste. Dry, and put on another coat. When this is dry the surface should be even and hard. Give two coats of good floor paint, allowing one week between coats. It will outwear oilcloth.

However watchful one may be, sometimes moths will be found working in carpets or rugs under large pieces of furniture. In such cases, wring a heavy cloth out of hot water to which a little turpentine has been added, spread over carpet and iron dry, taking care not to bear too heavily on the iron and flatten the nap. The whole carpet may be treated if one is suspicious of moths.

Have a jelly tumbler into which all the bits of toilet soap are thrown. When half full, fill the tumbler with water, pour into an agate basin and let simmer until soap is dissolved, adding water as fast as it evaporates, and then add two tablespoonfuls of coarse corn meal. Pour into a bowl and when hard you will have an excellent soap for the children to use when they come in with very soiled hands.

An attractive afghan is made by taking ten-inch wide strips of blue broadcloth (or other material) and putting them together with a fancy stitch done in wool or silk. Some stitch that gives the effect of insertion is pretty. Hem, fringe or crochet a scallop all around. These afghans may be made very elaborate by embroidering rows of polka dots near the seams or in circles through the breadths at regular intervals.

A satisfactory eern shade for lace or curtains may be had by dipping into a thin starch colored with medium strong coffee. A cheap pair of tan stockings boiled out also gives a good color.

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THAT INSPIRING EASTER SERMON

written especially for **COMFORT** will be one of the many attractive features which will make our Easter number for April exceedingly interesting. Don't miss the spring fashion talk in April **COMFORT** if you want to keep up with the styles. Don't let your subscription run out. If the number above your name on the wrapper this paper comes in is 283 or less, you should send in your renewal at once,—that means today,—if you put it off till tomorrow you forget it until it is too late.

THE HOME NURSE

Care of the sick-room and patient; baths, ventilation, disinfecting, remedies and general instructions that may be carried out in any home.

By Sarah Monroe

IN most homes, at one time or another, some member of the family is called upon to officiate in the capacity of nurse, and it is for the inexperienced who are pressed into the service that this article is written.

The importance of nursing can scarcely be overestimated, for in many cases the recovery of the patient will depend solely upon the care received.

Gentleness, firmness and tact are three necessary qualifications, coupled with cheerfulness and a determination not to be easily irritated or confused. Experience will teach you that it is by no means the greatest sufferer who will make the heaviest demands on your strength and time. In nervous diseases and during the convalescing period are often trying times on the patience of the nurse, but it must ever be remembered that you owe to your patient whatever attention that may affect his or her health and comfort.

Try from the start to cultivate confidence in your judgment, for therein your work will be lighter, and arguments will not ensue.

The facilities for the care of the sick at home will necessarily vary according to circumstances, but it is more frequently that the lack of knowledge causes the discomfort of the sick than the lack of means.

If possible, select a room where air and sunshine may be had in abundance. Usually a person rather be sick in their own room; but if this room is unsuitable, the duty of the nurse is to tactfully bring about a change.

Remove from the room everything that will collect lint and dust, not used in the care of the patient. Carpets are undesirable, as they hold contagion, and the dust from them is dangerous to the sick. A single bed is preferable when it can be obtained, especially during a long illness, for the patient is far easier handled, and can generally be made more comfortable.

If the room is kept dark, your patient is quite liable to have weak eyes for a long time. On the other hand, the bed should never face a window, but if this is unavoidable, such window must have a dark hanging over it, placed under the shade, so not to be unsightly.

In all cases, cleanliness must be insisted upon. Keep yourself clean and neat, for the nerves of the sick are very sensitive to slovenliness. Keep your hands in as good condition as possible; soft and warm, and the nails short and clean with frequent brushings. In case of rough red hands, a very small amount of white vaseline well rubbed in will help when nothing better is at hand.

In the absence of rubber heels on your shoes, glue on fitted pieces of felt to your soles. They will be noiseless. Leave the windows and doors as softly as possible, and insist that no banging of doors takes place in the house, for all such unnecessary sounds will increase temperature and keep your patient restless and exhausted.

Keep the body of your patient clean, as well as the clothing and bedding. Where the supply of changes is limited, institute the daily wash, which is far easier than the handling of an accumulation, and taking chances of stormy weather.

A bath and fresh clothing refreshes and brings up the spirits of the well, and in sickness its benefits are still greater. When lying in bed the bath produces great bodily comfort, which directly on the nerves. It keeps the pores of the skin open, removing the waste material from the blood which is brought to the surface by numerous glands; in all it is a positive aid to recovery.

To bathe the sick in bed without fatigue or exposure will require thought and patience. First the doctor should be consulted, as the form of bath depends on the disease. In cases when the temperature is normal, and the bath is for the sole purpose of cleanliness, use water at about blood heat with a very little pure soap. Place the patient between blankets, bathe the face, ears and neck and gently wipe dry. Once a week is often enough to use soap on the face, so it is well to bathe and dry first. Be very sure that the skin is left perfectly dry so no clamminess may follow. Bathe and dry one arm at a time, keeping the entire body covered excepting the part you are working on.

Should shivering come on during the bathing, suspend the bath and cover patient with hot blankets. If this condition holds for long, give stimulants.

Hot sponge bath given at night will often produce sleep. If the first one is unsuccessful, repeat in one hour.

A foot bath will relieve the head and the addition of mustard makes it effective. Use a pail, so the water may be poured away from the knees. If taken in bed, draw up the patient's knees while lying on the back, and the feet will comfortably remain in the water.

Do not neglect the hair; give it daily attention. That it may be thoroughly combed, have patient lie on her side and part hair in the middle from forehead to back of neck, and begin combing at ends of one side, and make into braid. Turn patient over and do the other side. Fasten ends of braid securely. Braid fairly close. This prevents head heating at the back; there is no bunch to cause headache, and should extreme weakness prevent combing for several days, the hair will not suffer.

That the bed be properly made is of great account. First induce the patient to discard the feather bed if such is in use. This may not be an easy matter, but in time you will receive a reward of thanks. Feather beds are too heating and in cases of long illness are liable to cause bed-sores. Fold a sheet once lengthwise, lay it crosswise the bed, neatly tucking one side in as far as it will extend under the mattress; go to opposite side, draw the sheet tight and proceed to tuck under as before. This you call the draw-sheet. Over this it may be necessary to use a rubber sheet; something that can be obtained at a dry-goods or drug-store.

Years in a family where the sheets are ordinary, and if possible should be kept on hand as its cost is soon saved in protecting the sheets and mattress. You next put on the under sheet, tucking in one side firmly and evenly, and from the opposite side drawing and tucking in. The same rule applies to top and bottom, and the corners should be turned square. Sheets put on like this will remain smooth for several days where the patient is too sick to be moved. Across this you put your second draw-sheet, tightly as at first. There will be a slight buckling of the mattress, but as soon as the patient lies upon it, it is straight. It is well to put large safety pins at corners of draw and rubber sheets, pinning to mattress. Where the patient is very restless, pin a stout strip of cloth to each of the upper corners of mattress, and tie to bed post. The upper sheet and blankets are tucked well under foot of mattress. Use small pillows, unless in cases when the patient requires to be in a semi-upright position.

The use of light weight bed coverings are essential, for a patient may suffer from exhaustion by covers that are not proportionately warm or light. Several light weight coverings are preferable, giving an opportunity of throwing back one or more during the warmer part of day.

In most instances it is better to turn bed coverings back from foot, rather than head of bed to attend to patient. There is less danger from drafts, besides most patients dislike to be uncovered; when at the foot 'tis an easy matter to throw a small cover over legs.

When the under sheet must be changed with patient in bed, move her to one side and roll the soiled sheet lengthwise close up to patient. Take the clean sheet and arrange one half lengthwise, tucking in as above described. Move patient onto clean half, remove soiled sheet and proceed to draw the other half of clean sheet tightly and tuck under. This may be accomplished with little or no fatigue to patient.

Try never to use broom in sick chamber, but instead, on the hands and knees quietly brush up lint, and sweep over floor with damp cloth. Dust also with a cloth made damp by wetting one half

and wringing dry; fold over dry half and wring again. Flying dust is very distasteful to the sick, as well as dangerous.

If the room contains a rocker and you use it, make sure that you are not disturbing your patient; a still better way is not to use it for your patient may dislike to tell you she is annoyed.

A nurse must never eat in the sick room, nor enter the room chewing; also guard against the odor of cooking food reaching the nostrils of your patient.

Either in the day- or night-time a little hot water is often wanted, or a little nourishment made warm, and you can construct a heater yourself. Take the cover of an old stove baking powder can, and with a sharp knife or can opener, cut it across both ways. Bend the four corners back far enough to make a level resting place for a tin cup. This is placed on top of the chimney of a lighted lamp, rim turned downward. Keep your lamp well trimmed and always in the room.

The hot weather is very trying for both patient and nurse and every cooling device is welcome. A sheet dipped in cold water and hung in the doorway, and a heavy towel wet and hung across the open window are two that help considerably. To keep ice in the bowl, place a piece of muslin tightly over a stick, and through these run a stout stick. Take stupe from boiling water and lay onto "stupe-wringer," take hold of sticks and wring dry. Or, stupe may be wrung out of comfortably hot water and put into a double boiler to become very hot. Keep water boiling, and return cool stupe to boiler as the hot one is applied. Protect the bedding by laying several thicknesses of flannel over stupe. When it can be had, a layer of oiled muslin over the stupe will keep the heat in longer.

And now, "last but not least," form the clean habit of never carrying things to your mouth. Many evil results of this habit have been pointed out, such as the danger of swallowing, and diseases, such as tuberculosis have been contracted by putting pins into the mouth. Never temporarily hold an article by the teeth, or in case of a prick or burn carry the hand to mouth. You may say that an absolutely clean person instinctively allows no foreign matter to enter the mouth, but as the human being is a creature of habit, we must forestall any such tendency by being ever watchful of ourselves.

Another method is to fill the adjoining room with fresh air and gradually let it into the sick room. Remember that fresh air is a great disinfectant.

A screen is counted as a necessity in caring for the sick, and one can be easily improvised by making a frame five feet high by four wide, nailing to each upright a heavy piece of wood to prevent its falling. Cover with a pleated which because it is washable makes the best kind of a screen. This may be placed in front of an open window, beside the bed when patient is being bathed or otherwise cared for, or used to protect patient when sitting in chair. It costs almost nothing and is of great value to the sick. There are several ways of removing unpleasant odors from the room, and one of the best is to set fire to a cotton cloth, and when well burning check flame by smothering; then walk around room with the smoking cloth. You may have to light it several times. Another is to put cinnamon and sugar on a hot stove over, letting it smoke. Do not allow soiled clothing to remain in or near the sick-room.

Three things will help you to care for fire with little disturbance. First provide yourself with a generous holder, so that you may work without undue haste, which in itself causes dropping and slamming; besides, a burn which breaks the skin is a dangerous thing when nursing. Second, make a stove poker from wood. It does just as good work without the noise of metal. Third, outside the sick-room, fill paper bags with coal, or make packages of coal with newspapers, putting paper and all in when replenishing fire.

Save yourself when lifting the sick. When a sitting position is desired, lean over your patient while she clasps both arms around your neck, and with one arm under her back slowly straighten yourself, bringing her up with you. When the sick are particularly nervous, try a gentle massage of the arms and legs, never using a sudden motion. Massage the scalp with the ends of fingers and in a circular motion, taking care that your nails do not touch scalp. Unbraiding the hair, combing and braiding again will often rest the sick.

As to conversation with the sick, a nurse must use her discretion as no two patients can be treated alike in this respect. Except for the necessary talk, let your patient lead or show an inclination to talk, before you say very much, then you will be quite sure that you are not cutting conversation. Then tactfully encourage or discourage according to topic or strength. Taboo unpleasant gossip; on the other hand, some amusing incident told is often beneficial. So far as possible, keep household cares from the sick; but in case the patient is worried it is better to inform her as considerably as possible.

A cup of hot milk will often induce a good night's sleep. Sleeplessness is often the result of an empty stomach, especially if the patient is on a liquid or semi-liquid diet, and lies awake several hours after the night nourishment.

Cold feet will also prevent sleep. A woolawl or blanket mad hot and loosely wrapped around feet and legs in very warming and soothing. Tuck a portion of it between legs as far as knees. Hot water bottles made of rubber are the best medium of heat when it is required constantly, but in their absence several substitutes may be managed. Fill quart flasks or bottles with very hot water, using medium heat first to prevent breakage; wrap in two thicknesses of cloth and place where heat is needed. Hot flatirons, bags filled with salt or sand, or soap-stone heated, are practical ways of heating the body and bed. Of course the rubber bottle being pliable conforms to the body and the patient may lie upon it.

Where artificial heat will not start the circulation begin with the feet and persistently knead until they are warm; then work upward toward trunk.

Avoid having bed in corner of room. Instead, as near the center as can be, where all parts are accessible, and the circulation of air is best. After a contagious disease, or any long sickness, a room should be fumigated, using sulphur which is readily obtained. Seal a room as nearly as possible with strips of cloth pasted over cracks, windows, doors, fireplace, etc. In a tin pan, put a good-sized lump of sulphur; place this tin in a larger one half filled with water, setting the whole in the center of room on two bricks. Set fire to sulphur, first making all ready to leave room, then seal door on outside. After twenty-four hours, open the windows and air all day or longer if necessary.

The legs of the sick become tired and aching when they lie on their back for hours at a time, and much rest to the entire body is had by placing a pillow under the knees. It relieves the back from strain. Another restful position is obtained by putting a pillow lengthwise, close to the back and letting the patient lean against it.

There are several ways to take the weight of bedclothes from an injured body or limb. Cut a barrel hoop in two, cover ends to protect patient, and place one or both parts where needed and bring bedding up over. Pillows may also be laid each side of bed to hold the weight.

When your patient is able to sit up in bed, if you have no regular bed-rest, remove pillow and place an ordinary straight chair in its place with legs toward head of bed. Place one or more pillows on the long back and a comfortable reclining position is afforded. A pillow under the knees prevents slipping down in bed.

If a baby seems restless in its sleep without apparent reason, try turning him from one side

to the other. He cannot turn himself and we know what a relief a change of position often is. And try several times a day to give baby a spoonful of cool water. Often it puts him to sleep, showing his uneasiness was from thirst.

Salt has many medicinal uses. Its antiseptic properties are acknowledged by physicians. For a cold in head and a gargle, dissolve half a teaspoonful in a glass of blood warm water. Take a handful at a time, carry to nose, draw into nostrils throw head back and let it trickle into throat. Spit out and repeat until full glass is used. This removes the mucus from the passages.

Salt dissolved in brandy makes an excellent gargle for sore throat; is also effectively used on ulcers of all kinds.

Inflamed eyes are rested and relieved by bathing with warm salt and water.

For neuralgia, apply a cotton bag half full of salt as hot as can be borne.

Salt and lemon makes a powerful drawing poultice for a felon.

When children are restless at night apparently from worms, give a glass of salted water.

Half a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in a glass of hot water and taken first thing in the morning and at bedtime has cured constipation when used persistently.

An excellent tonic bath is made by dissolving one pound of rock-salt in four gallons of water.

In case of bruises, apply hot salt and water. Besides relieving the pain, it prevents congestion.

Applications of hot, wet flannel, or "stupe" are commonly prescribed by physicians to reduce inflammation, and there are two practical ways of handling them without burning the hands. Old pieces of blanket or underwear make the best material. Cut ten inches square, or larger, and baste several thicknesses together. Lay in boiling water. Make a two-inch hem in each end of a piece of strong cloth, and through these run a stout stick. Take stupe from boiling water and lay onto "stupe-wringer," take hold of sticks and wring dry. Or, stupe may be wrung out of comfortably hot water and put into a double boiler to become very hot. Keep water boiling, and return cool stupe to boiler as the hot one is applied. Protect the bedding by laying several thicknesses of flannel over stupe. When it can be had, a layer of oiled muslin over the stupe will keep the heat in longer.

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A cup of hot milk will often induce a good night's sleep. Sleeplessness is often the result of an empty stomach, especially if the patient is on a liquid or semi-liquid diet, and lies awake several hours after the night nourishment.

Cold feet will also prevent sleep. A woolawl or blanket mad hot and loosely wrapped around feet and legs in very warming and soothing. Tuck a portion of it between legs as far as knees. Hot water bottles made of rubber are the best medium of heat when it is required constantly, but in their absence several substitutes may be managed. Fill quart flasks or bottles with very hot water, using medium heat first to prevent breakage; wrap in two thicknesses of cloth and place where heat is needed. Hot flatirons, bags filled with salt or sand, or soap-stone heated, are practical ways of heating the body and bed. Of course the rubber bottle being pliable conforms to the body and the patient may lie upon it.

Where artificial heat will not start the circulation begin with the feet and persistently knead until they are warm; then work upward toward trunk.

Avoid having bed in corner of room. Instead, as near the center as can be, where all parts are accessible, and the circulation of air is best. After a contagious disease, or any long sickness, a room should be fumigated, using sulphur which is readily obtained. Seal a room as nearly as possible with strips of cloth pasted over cracks, windows, doors, fireplace, etc. In a tin pan, put a good-sized lump of sulphur; place this tin in a larger one half filled with water, setting the whole in the center of room on two bricks. Set fire to sulphur, first making all ready to leave room, then seal door on outside. After twenty-four hours, open the windows and air all day or longer if necessary.

The legs of the sick become tired and aching when they lie on their back for hours at a time, and much rest to the entire body is had by placing a pillow under the knees. It relieves the back from strain. Another restful position is obtained by putting a pillow lengthwise, close to the back and letting the patient lean against it.

There are several ways to take the weight of bedclothes from an injured body or limb. Cut a barrel hoop in two, cover ends to protect patient, and place one or both parts where needed and bring bedding up over. Pillows may also be laid each side of bed to hold the weight.

When your patient is able to sit up in bed, if you have no regular bed-rest, remove pillow and place an ordinary straight chair in its place with legs toward head of bed. Place one or more pillows on the long back and a comfortable reclining position is afforded. A pillow under the knees prevents slipping down in bed.

If a baby seems restless in its sleep without apparent reason, try turning him from one side

to the other. He cannot turn himself and we know what a relief a change of position often is. And try several times a day to give baby a spoonful of cool water. Often it puts him to sleep, showing his uneasiness was from thirst.

Salt has many medicinal uses. Its antiseptic properties are acknowledged by physicians. For a cold in head and a gargle, dissolve half a teaspoonful in a glass of blood warm water. Take a handful at a time, carry to nose, draw into nostrils throw head back and let it trickle into throat. Spit out and repeat until full glass is used. This removes the mucus from the passages.

Salt dissolved in brandy makes an excellent gargle for sore throat; is also effectively used on ulcers of all kinds.

Inflamed eyes are rested and relieved by bathing with warm salt and water.

For neuralgia, apply a cotton bag half full of salt as hot as can be borne.

Salt and lemon makes a powerful drawing poultice for a felon.

When children are restless at night apparently from worms, give a glass of salted water.

Half a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in a glass of hot water and taken first thing in the morning and at bedtime has cured constipation when used persistently.

An excellent tonic bath is made by dissolving one pound of rock-salt in four gallons of water.

In case of bruises, apply hot salt and water. Besides relieving the pain, it prevents congestion.

Applications of hot, wet flannel, or "stupe" are commonly prescribed by physicians to reduce inflammation, and there are two practical ways of handling them without burning the hands. Old pieces of blanket or underwear make the best material. Cut ten inches square, or larger, and baste several thicknesses together. Lay in boiling water. Make a two-inch hem in each end of a piece of strong cloth, and through these run a stout stick. Take stupe from boiling water and lay onto "stupe-wringer," take hold of sticks and wring dry. Or, stupe may be wrung out of comfortably hot water and put into a double boiler to become very hot. Keep water boiling, and return cool stupe to boiler as the hot one is applied. Protect the bedding by laying several thicknesses of flannel over stupe. When it can be had, a layer of oiled muslin over the stupe will keep the heat in longer.

And now, "last but not least," form the clean habit of never carrying things to your mouth.

Many evil results of this habit have been pointed out, such as the danger of swallowing, and diseases, such as tuberculosis have been contracted by putting pins into the mouth.

Never temporarily hold an article by the teeth, or in case of a prick or burn carry the hand to mouth. You may say that an absolutely clean person instinctively allows no foreign matter to enter the mouth, but as the human being is a creature of habit, we must forestall any such tendency by being ever watchful of ourselves.

Another method is to fill the adjoining room with fresh air and gradually let it into the sick room. Remember that fresh air is a great disinfectant.

A screen is counted as a necessity in caring for the sick, and one can be easily improvised by making a frame five feet high by four wide, nailing to each upright a heavy piece of wood to prevent its falling. Cover with a pleated which because it is washable makes the best kind of a screen. This may be placed in front of an open window, beside the bed when patient is being bathed or otherwise cared for, or used to protect patient when sitting in chair. It costs almost nothing and is of great value to the sick. There are several ways of removing unpleasant odors from the room, and one of the best is to set fire to a cotton cloth, and when well burning check flame by smothering; then walk around room with the smoking cloth. You may have to light it several times. Another is to put cinnamon and sugar on a hot stove over, letting it smoke. Do not allow soiled clothing to remain in or near the sick-room.

Three things will help you to care for fire with little disturbance. First provide yourself with a generous holder, so that you may work without undue haste, which in itself causes dropping and slamming; besides, a burn which breaks the skin is a dangerous thing when nursing. Second, make a stove poker from wood. It does just as good work without the noise of metal. Third, outside the sick-room, fill paper bags with coal, or make packages of coal with newspapers, putting paper and all in when replenishing fire.

Save yourself when lifting the sick. When a sitting position is desired, lean over your patient while she clasps both arms around your neck, and with one arm under her back slowly straighten yourself, bringing her up with you. When the sick are particularly nervous, try a gentle massage of the arms and legs, never using a sudden motion. Massage the scalp with the ends of fingers and in a circular motion, taking care that your nails do not touch scalp. Unbraiding the hair, combing and braiding again will often rest the sick.

As to conversation with the sick, a nurse must use her discretion as no two patients can be treated alike in this respect. Except for the necessary talk, let your patient lead or show an inclination to talk, before you say very much, then you will be quite sure that you are not cutting conversation. Then tactfully encourage or

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"Chimmy's Innings"

By Wallace Arthur

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WHEN Jimmy McGinn's father went to his death in the attempt to keep his team from running down a group of school girls at the time of a big block fire, he left nothing with which to give Jimmy a start in life; but from him Jimmy inherited something worth while—a fighting heart. But that does not carry one very far when there is not a strong body to go with it.

Jimmy supposedly lived with his father's sister, but it was hardly a living. She came to her home in the tumbled-down tenement very seldom, and when she did not come, Jimmy had to hustle for his food.

He was waiting for her that eventful day when he saw a fellow who went by the name of "Squint" Greb come toward the door. Jimmy knew that it was a time to move, for "Squint" was ugly by nature and suspicious, and among the crowd in the tenement it had been said that he had done time for trying to rob a man in which attempt he came very nearly killing him.

Jimmy slunk in beside the door, and "Squint" went on. Jimmy returned to his post. Hardly had he turned his back when something struck him with painful force. He landed hard and solid on the dirty flags below the steps and a pain shot through him that racked every muscle in his body. But he looked up as he stifled his whimper. Above him "Squint" was looking down, his ugly face twisted. "What'd I tell you, you dirty Mick—stay up on your floor! Doan yeh come down here, hangin' around, er I'll break every bone in yer: see?"

Jimmy's blood was hot, but he knew he was hurt so that he could not move, and the big brute would only be more ugly if he answered him. So he said nothing, simply lay there, choking the tears back.

With a final curse and stream of harsh words, "Squint" went on.

Cautiously, with the help of a few of the watchers who had gathered, Jimmy drew himself together and limped up-stairs to the chill room. On the way up he went slowly, very slowly as he passed "Squint's" room in which he could hear the thief moving about.

Evening had come and it was not a very desirable place to be—alone in the cold room. He drew himself carefully onto the old broken-down couch, and lay still; it hurt atrociously where "Squint" had kicked him; but Jimmy knew it would wear off with time; and someday—someday, he comforted himself he would have his turn.

A little later Jimmy heard a familiar step, and after his answer, a fat, bewhiskered face peered in, and a voice said—a cheery, heavy voice—"Hullo, yer's Chimmy?"

"Over here, Deutch," Jimmy's treble answered.

The big figure came in. "Vat's wrong, Chimmy?"

"Nothin' much, that big mut of a 'Squint' Greb kicked me off the steps," was the reply. The German stiffened, then he put his big market-basket down. "The tiff ne did! Vat was it?"

Jimmy went on to tell him, and "Deutch" listened, adding now and then in his rough German tongue just his opinion of Greb.

The old German's voice softened when Jimmy finished. He sat silent for a moment, then leaned forward. "Chimmy, vat do you think? Mein frau und I have no kinder—you hev been gute to us, don't pinch my stuff. Vat do you say—come lif with us eh?"

Jimmy sat up. "Youse mean it, Deutch?" he cried. "Live out there with youse on the farm?"

Heingerman laughed. "Jest it, boy. Come on!"

And that was the way it happened. Jimmy with the old German's help got safely downstairs and climbed into the old truck wagon in the street.

Jimmy began to live again; his thin body filled out; the muscles caked on his limber bones. Life was worth living.

Heingerman ran a small truck-farm outside of the city, and it was his habit to drive in and deliver goods to such customers as he had; then return in the evening. His wife had always accompanied him in order that she might stand guard over the vegetables in the wagon while he went inside of the houses and tenements. Both of them soon learned to love the little Irishman; into the lonely places in each heart he entered; and all three were happy together.

Jimmy saw "Squint" once or twice from the safe seat beside Mrs. Heingerman. "Squint" used to glance at him and the others once in a while; particularly did he study them on one occasion, and Jimmy was getting ready to reach for a big stick which the German kept in the back of his seat, thinking that "Squint" was coming for him; but "Squint" didn't.

Jimmy said nothing to the others, but deep down in his heart was the old battle spirit; and some day—some day, he kept saying to himself, he'd see that things were squared.

Gradually it came about that Mrs. Heingerman stayed at home and let Jimmy go to keep guard over the team; and well he did it. Perched up on the load he kept an eagle eye on all who approached the wagon; and it took a more than clever bit of work to "pinch" anything. Heingerman was pleased to find that so much was saved him; and his voice dropped often into the soft, reassuring that sounds so sweet in the German language.

One evening after a hard day's work, they started home. Outside of the city everything was quiet, save where the suburban cars spun through the night by them now and then. Everywhere else about them the night came down quiet and still.

They entered a stretch of road that ran through trees on either side. Jimmy was tired after his day's cares, and curled up on some potato bags in the wagon near the seat. Soon he was sound asleep.

He woke with a start—how much later he did not know nor care. And he saw what had awakened him—a shadowy figure had lightly climbed in the back of the wagon! In a flash Jimmy was wise; someone had spotted them driving out from the city night after night and had rightly guessed that the old German brought money with him each time.

Jimmy started to rise when the figure went by him like a streak. Jimmy turned and did something else. He saw the old man, half asleep suddenly stiffen, start to struggle then go limp in the grasp of the shadow. There was a soft hissing sound as the old man strove for breath; the hissing grew softer as his strength and consciousness waned.

Jimmy was hunting for the club that was always near the seat. He could not find it. Suddenly his fingers felt it; he gripped it; and drew back. He swung it far over; something burst within him, and he yelled in a high sharp voice—his ancestors before him had cracked many a skull; it was the old spirit, alive; with a yell the club came over and fell with a crash on the top of the shadow. The shadow seemed to crumple, stiffen, and went down and out for good when the club fell again.

Jimmy pulled the unconscious figure of the old man back in the wagon to keep him from lurching; grabbed the reins, and took the startled old horse under his care.

It was a strange load that came banging into the dooryard; it was a high ringing voice tinged

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With the cheer of battle and conquering that brought Mrs. Heingerman out to have the same voice yell at her to telephone for a "Doc" and "a cop."

With her help Jimmy pulled the old man into the house, and they went to work. Soon a doctor's automobile hummed and stopped by the house. And he came in. Under his care the old German rounded into his customary consciousness. He felt for his money then asked for Jimmy.

Jimmy's voice reached them. "Hey, youse," he was calling from outside, "help me git this guy in—he's all blood!"

They rushed out to find him tugging at a big form in the cart. The doctor took hold and they drew the inert figure in. As it came under the light Jimmy yelled: "It's Squint—the dirty mut. I've got 'im! It's Squint!"

And "Squint" it proved to be. He opened his eyes just for a moment before he was whisked away in the automobile to the suburban station; and in that moment Jimmy took pains to see that "Squint" recognized him. The doctor remarked that he guessed "Squint" would carry a headache as a result of the clouts Jimmy gave him as long as he lived.

It was Heingerman who put the whole thing the right way as they sat together stowing away Mrs. Heingerman's choicest food, "Dat vas your innin's, eh, Chimmy?"

And Jimmy's eyes gleamed, though he couldn't talk through the favorite pie with which he had filled his mouth.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

I have not been a subscriber to COMFORT very long, but have read and admired it all my life. We take lots of papers and I read all of them. I do not like the cheap novels for I think they are not good for poor girls to read, they cause them to build too many air castles, and so many are disappointed in life.

I will send a few helping hints in return for those I have received. One teaspoon each of turpentine, kerosene oil, vinegar, quinine, camphor and tallow (or pure hog's lard) mixed well and applied to a flannel jacket and put on body will cure any kind of croup, colds and pneumonia.

When your hens lay soft shelled eggs, give them lime about one half teaspoon twice a week. When you break a dish, take your hammer and crush it up for your chickens. More fowls die for want of gravel and grit than anything else.

For cholera feed your chickens on biscuit. This is a sure remedy but don't give them too much, or feed continually.

With love to all,
Mrs. HATTIE YOUNG, Troup, R. R. 6, Texas.

DEAR SISTERS:
I want to come again and thank you for your kind letters. I answered those who sent stamp.

Dear little city girl, cheer up! You may soon be a Western girl. I hope you may have that pleasure.

Sisters you should see me on my pony. I just love to ride and spend every spare hour in that healthful exercise. How I do wish some of you poor girls who are penned up in the city could only have some of the freedom and brisk fresh air we Wyoming girls enjoy.

Of course you have much to be thankful for that we do not have the church, the nearby schools and theaters. We have no church (I am sorry to say) but I think anyone can be a Christian without being a member of a church. I have only been inside a church twice. I have read the greater part of the Old Testament and the New Testament twice. I enjoy St. Matthews, Luke, Mark and St. John best of the New Testament; and Genesis, Psalms, and Proverbs best of the Old Testament.

I hope all of the readers of COMFORT spent a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. My elder brother Gilbert, who was nineteen in February, and I had a New Year's party. We all had a jolly time. I went to a dance the thirtieth and enjoyed myself greatly.

Dear sisters, God sent mamma home to us some better but not cured. She was gone nearly six weeks. Baby grew considerably in the time. She thinks as much of her foster-mother as of mamma. She is very cute and can sit alone for a short while.

Yes sisters, I am going to school again and progressing splendidly. I have caught up with my school-mates in class, in everything but General History and Physical Geography. How many of you have studied rhetoric? I dearly love it. My greatest aspiration is to be an author. I am very much afraid you will say that I don't write like I would make a good one.

Have any of you ever tried to make cake, doughnuts, pumpkin pie or cookies without eggs? I did not have an egg to make my party cakes and they all say they were fine. Make them just as you do with eggs. Thank you again and again for the many letters and caring remembrance.

MISS MYRTLE V. WOOLF, Climax Ranch, Lost Cabin, R. R. 1, Fremont Co., Wyo.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
As I was writing some letters to COMFORT sisters I thought I would write one to your corner. I am most interested in the letters describing the country in which the sisters live.

This country is inhabited chiefly by Mexicans, and many consumptives are here who came for their health. Now I would like to ask for help which I know will help many others besides myself. I would like to know of a place where there is little consumption, or where it is healthy for one to live who at one time had it, but is well now; and where it rains enough for farming?

Sisters, I beg of you to never come here on these dry plains, high altitude country, unless it is for health, for not one in ten ever stays here that can get away.

This is a health-giving country for people afflicted with lung troubles. Any information will be read with interest. I remain sincerely,
Mrs. BERT MCKEIFF, Colfax, N. Mexico.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND COMFORT SISTERS:
As I have written twice before to your corner and never saw my letter in print, I will try again, hoping I can send some suggestions that will help other sisters as theirs have helped me. I have been a subscriber of COMFORT many years, even before my name changed, and think it is a jewel.

And now for a description of myself. I am about five feet seven inches, black hair and light brown eyes, and weigh—oh, I'll let you guess; however I have never been stunted any. I live on a farm near the little station of Thompson, which is located seven miles southwest of Fairbury, the county seat of Jefferson county.

I have three little daughters, my oldest Bern aged eight, Glee six, and Maxim eight months. My husband was a depot agent until a year ago last May, on a farm and we think it is just fine.

By sprinkling salt in the bottom of new skillets, and burning it a little, then washing it well will keep the vegetables from sticking to the bottom when frying them. Also, if milk is spilled on the stove, or fruit

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The following are the winners of the fifteen cash prizes offered in connection with our cut-up picture puzzle printed in December COMFORT.

FIRST PRIZE - \$3.00 Mrs. Jacob Hare, Wis.
SECOND PRIZE - \$2.00 Miss Nellie Griffin, Ky.
THIRD PRIZE - \$1.00 Miss Edith DeBott, N. Y.
FOURTH PRIZE - \$1.00 Miss Emma DeBott, N. Y.
FIFTH PRIZE - \$1.00 Ella Heitmueller, Md.

To each of the following ten persons 50 cents each:
L. W. Mason, Va.; G. A. Johnson, Minn.; E. V. Cofer, W. Va.; M. Louisa Slingerland, N. Y.; W. L. McNamee, Iowa; Mrs. Frank Cowley, Ky.; Miss Grace Bacon, N. Dak.; Allen M. Johnson, Mich.; Stella Rosenfeld, Cal.; Mrs. W. C. Polka, Ore.

NUMBER 282

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BY KATE V. SAINT MAUR.

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Prevention of White Diarrhea

WHITE diarrhea has been so prevalent among young chicks for the last few years, and it runs such a rapid course, that every poultry keeper should try to prevent its getting started. First of all the nature of the disease must be understood. It is not an ordinary bowel trouble, but develops from a germ transmitted from a hen through the agency of her eggs; but having once developed into a positive disease in a small chick, it will spread rapidly through an entire hatch as the droppings of the affected chick get on the floor. It is for this reason that it is so disastrous amongst artificially-raised chicks.

The Connecticut Agricultural College has been doing a great deal of investigation work during the last year, and I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to talk with Professor Stoneburn, who assured me that there was no doubt about its being a germ disease, which originates in the ovaries of the mature hen. For that reason he is under the impression that within a very short time they will be in possession of facts which will enable them to control, and possibly exterminate, the disease, in all well-established plants; for if hens selected for breeding pens are in perfectly healthy condition, their eggs will carry no contamination into the incubator or the setting hen's nests.

Now, to explain the recommended preventives. One authority suggests dosing the breeding hens to clean out the intestines. One teaspoonful of Epsom salts mixed with dry corn, to be made into a mash for three hens, is supposed to be a safe dose. To save time and trouble, a whole flock should be dosed the same day. Feed the mash in the evening, and early the following morning disinfect the house by scattering air slacked lime over all the droppings. Repeat the dose and the cleaning up once a month during the breeding season. Personally, I don't think it is advisable to resort to such drastic measures unless you had a bad epidemic of white diarrhea last year, in which case, it is morally sure that some of your present stock carry the germs. If, however, there was no trouble last year, of this kind, your old birds are probably healthy, and need no dosing. It is, however, quite advisable to disinfect the eggs before setting them. Moisten a clean piece of soft muslin with pure alcohol, and carefully wipe each egg, two or three hours before putting them into the incubator or under hens. After chicks are hatched, keep brooders and brood-coops scrupulously clean. When incubators are being used for hatching, disinfect after each hatch, for the germs may have been introduced into the egg-chamber through the droppings of some infected hen. Clean out all the accumulation of filth, dust and droppings. If the machine has removable burlap frames, take them out and scrub with hot water and soap. Rinse in scalding water and leave in the air to dry. Heat up the machine, and give the inside a thorough spraying with any good disinfectant. Don't neglect to heat the machine before spraying, as it is necessary to insure quick drying, otherwise, some of the metal parts might be injured. For the same reason, the frames must be thoroughly dried before they are replaced in the machine.

You must not confuse ordinary bowel-trouble (which attacks small chicks with white diarrhea). Indiscreet feeding or a chill may produce bowel trouble, which can be easily cured; but white diarrhea is much more dangerous, being a disease of the intestines which affects the entire system, and is usually fatal.

Several letters which I have not published this month for want of space, have asked for instructions about moisture in the incubator, so I will add a few hints here. The average person seems to think that moisture is not necessary until after the eighteenth day, which is a mistake. It is during the first week of incubation that we specially want to prevent moisture in the egg escaping, and only by keeping the air in the egg-chamber humid can that be done. There is now upon the market a hygrometer which registers moisture just as accurately as a thermometer registers heat.

They only cost about two dollars apiece, and will pay for themselves in the extra number of chicks which are sure to be hatched if moisture is properly controlled.

The next question naturally is, how much moisture should there be? I have always had the best results when the hygrometer registered seventy-five degrees the first week; seventy the second week. The third week it should run down to forty-five, and even to forty, until the nineteenth day. Then I put in wet sponges, and run it up to sixty or sixty-five degrees. The moisture at the beginning of the hatch is needed to check too rapid evaporation of water in the egg, because if the moisture is used up too rapidly, the embryo will be stimulated by an excess of blood-circulation, which is detrimental at that early period of development when the parts of the embryo are only being assembled. After the fourteenth day, when growth has started, more blood

any firm which advertises to sell separate parts of their machines.

L. E.—Will you kindly give me some information through the columns of COMFORT how I can get some eggs from my hens? I have the Buff Orpingtons—seven in all—and I keep them in a house five and one-half by six feet, with cloth-covered front and small glass door. They seem healthy and are lively. Their combs and wattles are a bright red. They got through the moult fully two months ago. I feed them two parts wheat, one part oats and one part cracked corn in deep litter. For a noon feed I give sprouted oats, and every other day I give a mash composed of bran, middlings, alfalfa meal, and fresh lean meat. I keep oyster-shell and grit before them all the time, also dry wheat bran. I have a small run for them, six by fifteen feet. They seem in good condition, and I don't think they are too fat to lay. Is there any way I can improve on feeding? I am thinking of getting the Barred Rocks next season, and building a large house, giving each bird four square feet. Do you think they will do as well if they have one hundred in a flock, or is it better to divide them into smaller flocks?

A.—You don't say what you feed at night. If you give the birds whole corn, and all they can eat of it in fifteen minutes at supper-time, you have a perfectly well-balanced ration, and should be getting eggs; but if you feed the small mixed grain at night, your rations are wanting in food and warmth-supplying qualities. It would be well to add one part cornmeal to the mash, and as long as cold weather lasts scatter half a pint of grain in the litter at nighttime. I don't care to have more than fifty in a flock.

H. B. M.—I have read COMFORT for a good many years, and think it is very nice. I would like to know why the hens will eat their eggs, and how to prevent it. We have eight dozen nice, large hens, and one dozen old ones, and the rest young ones. They are in nice shape. I know they lay, for I found one, one day. We have had them for three weeks now, and I find one egg yet. Would like to get answer soon as possible.

A.—Probably, as you have only had the hens three weeks, the change of quarters has had something to do with their not laying. It is for that reason I always advise getting birds into their winter quarters before the end of September. I don't believe the hens can be eating the eggs for a rule that is a bad habit that only arises through the eggs getting smashed, or the hens probably not having sufficient animal food in their daily rations.

J. W. B.—I have been a subscriber to COMFORT for several years, and read it with interest from cover to cover, and enjoy your poultry talk very much, and often find help from it; and now I would like to ask you how to sprout oats for chickens. We have about thirty-five White Leghorn chickens, and would like to take the best possible care of them this winter, and would like to try the oats when the cabbage is gone, but do not know just how to go about it, and would be very much obliged if you would be kind enough to tell us how in the enclosed envelope. I would also like to ask if you know of any remedy for strong-tasting milk. I have only one cow, and she is not due to be fresh until May, but the milk is already getting strong, and I don't think it's from anything she eats, as we have good hay, and she only gets shorts and some potato peelings besides. I am also very careful about keeping all the dishes and pails clean and sweet. If you can tell me of anything that will help, I'll be so very much obliged, especially if there is something to keep the butter from getting strong.

A.—Before this answer reaches you, you will have learned all I can tell you about making an oat-sprouter, as I covered the subject in one of our recent numbers. Your question about milk hardly belongs to the poultry column, but as it has come to me, I will answer it. Unless the cow is sick, the milk should not be strong. Does she have plenty of clean drinking water and rock salt, and are you careful to keep the milk away from the highly-seasoned, cooked food. Onions, turnips, and any such strong-smelling things will affect the flavor of milk which has been allowed to stand anywhere in their vicinity.

J. F.—I thank you for the information in your letter. Of course, I cannot publish it, as it would be like recommending the remedy you speak of, and would not be fair to our other advertisers; but I am glad to hear of your experience.

E. H.—Could you please tell me through your poultry column how to feed rabbits and their young ones? Is there any profit in raising them? I would be glad to hear all about rabbits.

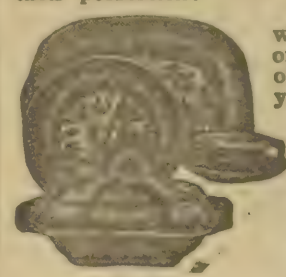
A.—Keep mature rabbits of different sexes in separate hutches. When young ones are six weeks old, the mother should visit the buck's hutch, and be left there several hours, during which time the young ones must be taken from her cage and be put in a hutch by themselves. Hay and oats are the two staple winter foods. Carrots and apples are enjoyed, and should be given occasionally. Keep a piece of rock salt in each hutch, and a dish of water. Does should have a little bread and milk every day for two weeks before young ones are expected, and for three weeks afterward; also keep a pan of wheat bran in the coop until the little ones are six weeks old. Never give young rabbits cabbage or turnips.

A. L.—I come to you for advice, which I sincerely hope you will find time to give me through the poultry column in February issue of COMFORT. I have a thoroughbred Evergold Buff Wyandotte rooster; he is up to the standard in every respect; his wattles are so long that they get in the water when he drinks. The last few days we are having zero weather, and when he got his wattles in the drinking water, the ends of them froze. As soon as I noticed it, I brought him in and greased them with turpentine and glycerine. Will he be any good as a mating bird now that his wattles have been frozen? Last year I started with twelve hens of different breeds, and several roosters. Through following your splendid advice in the poultry columns of COMFORT every month, I have been very successful; the twelve hens laid one hundred and three dozen eggs last year. It seems strange, but the colder the weather, the more eggs I get.

The least they ever laid was sixty-four one month, and the most they ever laid was one hundred and eighty-five in a month. I cleared after all expenses, such as feed, a new scratch shed seventeen by eight, and a large run one hundred and twenty-two by one hundred and twenty, all fenced in, just thirteen dollars clear money. Now I feel I've done pretty good. This year, 1912, I am starting out with thirty-eight pullets, nine old hens, and four roosters; Buff Wyandotte, Leghorns, and a few Rhode Island Reds. My first hatch was April 25th, and the last on June 21st. I had a great many roosters. We have been killing them, and we sold six at Thanksgiving time. I am very fond of chickens, and delight in taking care of them. It is four and five below zero here in Akron, and yet my chickens are laying just as though it were mild weather. I am getting from seven to twelve eggs a day. I sell five dozen a week, and get forty cents a dozen, and sometimes forty-five. I have

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G. P. 17-C

M. M.—Will you please tell me through the columns of the poultry department of COMFORT if chicory is good for hens to eat for greens in summer? My hens are fond of it, and I noticed one eating the root the other day. I enjoy all of COMFORT, and especially find the poultry farming for women very interesting.

A.—I don't think chicory is especially good for hens, but it certainly won't do them any harm.

J. O.—Will you please advise me as to which incubator and brooder is best, or would you try an incubator or set old hens? Will an incubator be worth buying and be worth the money I put into one?

A.—I would not try to run my poultry farm without an incubator; hens are too uncertain about wanting to set, and don't hatch enough chicks at one time to make it worth while bothering with them. If you really want to make money out of your poultry, I advise you to get an incubator, even if it is only a small one at first. I can't give addresses in this column; you had better look through the advertising pages.

Below are three letters which I am publishing in full, because they give three different combinations of symptoms which all belong to the one disease—roup; and I think by reading these different symptoms grouped together, it will help many of our readers who are doubtful about the disease.

E. M. S.—Please answer these questions for me in the January number of COMFORT. I don't know what

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 37.)



GOOD TYPE OF HOUSE FOR BREEDING CHICKENS AND LAYING HENS.

is needed to promote expansion and respiration, and for that reason evaporation is necessary. Then on the nineteenth day moisture is needed simply to soften the inside skin of the egg and make it easy for the chick to break through.

Correspondence

E. B. H.—Will you please tell me of any firm or factory that sells heating apparatus for brooders. I would like to repair my old brooders with heaters, for I cannot obtain new ones from the factory I purchased from. They furnish no repairs. Had I known this, I would not have bought from them.

A.—Several incubator firms sell the heating apparatus and lamps for brooders, but I doubt if any would fit into the machine the manufacturers are putting into the market. I can only advise you to write to

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and Almanac for 1912 has 224 pages with many colored plates of fowls true to life. It tells all about chickens, their prices, their care, diseases and remedies. All about incubators, their prices and their operation. All about poultry houses and how to build them. It's an encyclopedia of chickenhood. You need it. Only 15c. C. C. SHOENAKER, Box 936, Freeport, Ill.

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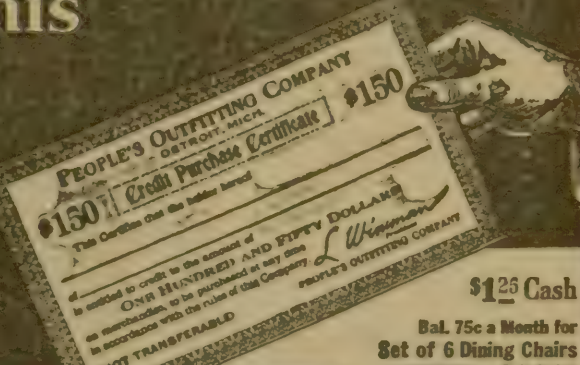
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People's Outfitting Co.
348 E Street
Detroit, Mich.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.)

der reechoes and makes many deafening crashes over the land.

Long Island is a beautiful spot, with its vast and beautiful estates. Most of the streets and roads are lined on both sides with large, shady maple trees, and when the wind blows through them at night, it is a sort of lullaby.

How I do enjoy the sisters' letters, when they talk of their children. I have two lovely little babies and you must know that I am proud of them. They are both girls; Doris is nearly two years old and of course just at her cutest age. She has golden hair and big blue eyes. Grace, the baby is just eleven weeks old today, but she is beginning to notice and coo so hard to get up. She is rather cross but just as dear. Her eyes are a real dark blue and her hair a rich auburn shade.

You see, dear sisters, I have my hands full, although my mother was with me for ten weeks and took Doris home with her for a few months, which makes it much easier for me, but her papa and I are getting real lonesome without her, so do not think it will be long before she will be with us again.

My husband is an automobile man and works in N. Y. city, but he manages to travel back and forth every day.

The days are very long for me, as he leaves home at 5:45 a. m. and does not get home until 8 p. m., and very often it is later, so you see, dear sisters, I get very lonesome at times.

I read a good deal, and would so much appreciate letters from any who have time to write me.

God bless you all, especially Uncle Charlie and his noble work among the shut-ins. Dear old Comfort, it surely deserves its name. Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. E. MASON, Great Neck, Box 12, N. Y.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I wonder dear friends if you will welcome a sister from West Virginia. Have been taking Comfort for several years and would not like to do without the many helps, and everything that is interesting within its pages.

I have been married nearly twelve years. Have two children, a blue-eyed boy ten years old, and a little brown-eyed daughter seven years. We live in the oil fields, at which work my husband has followed since our marriage.

Sisters, the next time you take a severe cold on your lungs try taking turpentine, camphor and lamp oil in equal quantities, and a large tablespoon of pure lard, putting all together in a vessel and heat to boiling point (being very careful that it doesn't take fire while heating). When cool, bathe patient well across affected part; heat a large square of flannel and place over this and pin securely to keep in place, and see if your cold is not better in a short time. Also, eat plenty of onions fried in pure lard and take a teaspoon of the lard in which the onions were fried. This is fine for colds as I have used both remedies extensively in my own family.

How many of us dear friends have started this bright new year by trying to live closer to the dear Savior who has done so much for us; and how many are trying to break that worst of all habits, gossiping about our neighbors? Let us try dear sisters, when unkind things are said to us about our neighbors and friends, to still our tongues and not add anything to the unkind words. If we cannot speak well of one, do not speak evil.

We are living at present in a lonely place, and since the cold weather has set in and roads have gotten bad I am somewhat of a shut-in. I have a worsted quilt partly pieced, but lack of material has stopped my work; so if any of you can spare pieces four by four inches, I would be grateful.

Wishing one and all the sisters a successful and happy year in the loving wish of

Mrs. E. E. ANDERSON, Waverly, B. R. 2, Box 61, West Va.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have taken Comfort for three years, and read it long before that. I like the Sisters' Corner, and especially enjoy the letters telling about the different places as we would like to move to some place where we could better ourselves. There are five in our family: two boys, eighteen and twenty, my eighteen-year-old girl, my husband and self.

What I want to write about is a dear little baby girl which I took to board when she was six weeks old, and such a poor, little sick mite. Her mother paid me at first, but it did not last long; now she is going to give the baby up, put it on the state. We love it too well to let it go away from us without we know she is going to someone that will love her as we do. If I were well she would never go away from us; but as it is, I cannot do for her as I want to. She is a very pretty baby; blue eyes and golden hair and such a fair skin. She has seven teeth and although she is cutting more she is as good as gold. She sleeps all night and is in the best of health.

Do any of the sisters know of some empty mother's arms that would open to this little sunbeam? Her mother will give up every claim, and I will take her to anyone who wants me to.

Hoping someone will see this who wants to take a little one to bless and make happy,

I am yours sincerely,

Mrs. LILLIAN E. STENSON, 42 Bloomingdale St., Chelsea, Mass.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

I have ever intended to write to the Sisters' Corner for I have taken Comfort for many years.

I was seventy years old the 12th of last January and during this past year have had great trouble, losing my dear husband and one daughter by the hand of the great reaper of the harvest. While I am left alone and the Lord knoweth best, I try to be submissive to His will, not mind my own.

I have heard my husband preach his last sermon; he was a minister of the gospel and his last is done. I feel that soon I shall meet them both with glad hands on the happy golden shore.

I love to read the good letters; they give me much comfort.

Please may I ask some sister to send me the very beautiful song, "Silver Threads Among the Gold," and I would be so glad to have it in print.

With best wishes for all,

Mrs. JULIA A. SIMMONS, Wilkesville, Ohio.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON AND SISTERS:

On receiving Comfort I always turn first to the Sisters' Corner and read all the letters as they are of more interest to me than any other department of Comfort. I have also some very pleasant correspondents acquired through the Comfort Sisters' Corner.

Flower growing has been an interesting topic with me for the past year, so I will give some of my experiences. Last spring I became possessed of a desire to raise some flowers—lots of flowers. I appropriated a good wide border around both vegetable gardens, and sent for most of the bargain lots of seed I saw advertised in Comfort and elsewhere. These were planted in the garden borders as soon as the ground was warm enough. The season was unusually dry, so it took much drawing of water to get them started off, which soon became irksome, so I had a water tank set up after which things went better.

About the first of June my husband consented to let me have a good-sized plot of the grounds fenced off on which I started a more permanent flower garden. My aspiration ran to perennials and such plants as could be kept from year to year and propagated without the slow process of growing from seed. I laid out a walk through the middle of the plot, and on walks between them. The beds were uniformly prepared by excavating to about two feet, forking and mixing the bottom well with a good supply of stable manure, and returning the dirt taken out, with the necessary addition of sand and woods dirt, as it was after the first experience of general seed saving put up seed boxes in a sunny, sheltered place, and provided cloth covers to protect them from too much sun. These had been planted with perennials and kept moist with the sprinkling can. The plants were soon large enough to be transplanted to the perennial beds.

By occasional visits to greenhouses, other plants were added and multiplied rapidly from cuttings. When fall came I had a fine variety of established perennials large enough for the clumps to be divided to fill the places of those plants that must be lifted and placed in the pit, previously made ready for them. As flower pits seem not to be as common in other sections as they are in the South, I will describe mine.

In a sunny place with a southern exposure, a hole was dug eight feet square by eight feet deep. This was boxed inside till it looked like a huge dry-goods box had been sunk in the ground. Shelves were then made around the sides in amphitheater style. The first two doors opening in the middle were close fitting frames, covered with brown domestic; the two outer wooden doors made of weather boarding same as used on the outside of a house. There are not many days when the wooden doors may not be lifted, and light and air admitted through the canvas, and many more days when the pit may be entirely thrown open to air and sunshine. Flowers keep well in pits, but the heat is not sufficient to make them bloom much before early spring.

I would appreciate any suggestions from the sisters in regard to the expense and construction of a small greenhouse.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilkinson and Comfort sisters, sincerely yours,

Mrs. E. E. SMITH, Haley, Box 24, Tenn.

Mrs. Smith, Your description of a flower pit is both instructive and interesting, and so plainly described that I could make one myself. I know it will help a good many sisters who grow flowers.

Your desire for suggestions regarding the expense and construction of a small greenhouse gives me the idea that any information on the subject of flower culture would be welcomed. So let us have some letters for the May Comfort from sisters who successfully raise flowers, any information that you know will be helpful.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I am still reading the good Comfort and like it bet-

ter and better every month. I am a girl of thirteen years. I am in school now. I study seven books; they are arithmetic, grammar, geography, United States history, Georgia history, agriculture and spelling. I like them all fine. I am in the seventh grade, and go to school every day. I like it fine and we have a fine teacher.

I will advise any girl or boy to go to school and learn all they can. When you get an education you can do so much better than you can without one. So you be sure and go to school. I am sure it won't hurt you. If you can't go but a month or two, you be sure and go.

I would like very much to describe myself. I am thirteen years of age, weigh about eighty-five pounds, have brown hair and eyes and am about four feet tall, and have fair complexion.

I would like very much to hear from some of you good sisters. I would very much like to see my letter in print.

Love to Mrs. Wilkinson and sisters. Wishing you all a Happy New Year,

KITTIE JACKSON, Barnesville, E. R. 2, Ga.

To Kittle who wrote the above letter, and to Marjorie who wrote the one following, I want to say that I like little girls like you. And how do you suppose that I know this when I have never seen you. Well, it is because you like your teachers, and your studies, and appreciate the "rand opportunity of going to school."

I am greatly interested in the fact that you study agriculture, and here in the North it is being taught in many of the schools.

Now I am going to guess that you are neighbors and have some very happy times together; and also that when these letters were written you were sitting very near each other, for they are written on the same kind of stationery. Am I right?

That you will make the most of your school years, will be obedient daughters and grow to true womanhood is my wish.—Ed.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

Will you let a Georgia girl enter your circle for a while? I am twelve years old and live in the country on a farm five miles from Barnesville, in Monroe County.

I go to school and like it very much. I am in the seventh grade and study seven books; they are arithmetic, grammar, geography, United States history, Georgia history, agriculture and spelling. My teacher's name is Miss Jennie Reynolds from Milledgeville, Ga. She is a nice teacher, at least I like her fine.

The farmers raise mostly cotton, corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes and vegetables. My mamma raises chickens and turkeys.

I enjoy reading the Comfort, especially the sisters' letters.

I will close hoping to see my letter in print and wishing to hear from some of the sisters.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year, am,

MARJORIE ASKIN, Barnesville, E. R. 2, Ga.

DEAR COMFORT SISTERS:

I have been a silent reader of Comfort for quite a while, but this is the first letter I have dared to write because I haven't been blessed with the golden opportunity of going to school as much as some of the sisters for my dear mother is where I was quite sick, and at the same time left a baby brother two years and seven months old for which I was compelled to leave school and care for, as my father was a farmer and couldn't well do so, and so I have kept house for my father since mother's death, which happened sixteen years ago. I am very lonely at times, as my brother is now in school, and my father is away from home a great deal during the day.

I do so much enjoy reading the Comfort sisters' letters, and have derived much benefit from them. Now dear sister, will as many of you as can, remember me with a post-card shower as I do enjoy looking at pretty post-cards. (I do not like comics.) I have a post-card album that was given to me by a dear friend which holds four hundred and ninety-six cards.

Will some of the sisters please tell how to preserve fruit so that it will taste like fresh cabbage? I shall be glad to know.

With best wishes to all, I am your Comfort sister, Miss VIRGIN E. BUFORD, Williamsport, E. R. 2, Box 60, Tenn.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON, SISTERS AND FRIENDS:

Twilight is drawing her curtains around the departing year, while from above, the clouds send forth their misty veils. Man passes unconcerned among the scenes of life, nor notes the flight of time. The declining year whose moments now are numbered was but lately new and young. It came budding forth in joy, to weep itself away. Many, ah yes, so many friends and loved ones has it gathered to its bosom, and today again we stood beside a new-made grave, in which lies buried the form of a beautiful child—around whose life had clustered hopes and deep affection. Sleep gently on and yet, until the dawning of the resurrection morn. Many have been thy sorrows, some thy pleasures.

Lately we have seen the winsome bride and handsome bridegroom stand before the marriage altars where vows were spoken that bound them to each other, "until death do thee part." Alas, old year, 'tis death that always causes separation even after solemn vows are made to God and man, they are often lightly set aside because one or the other has grown fond of someone else.

Dear old year, you and I have wandered from the bridal to the tomb; and so near the other that a step alone will bring us through the journey. Wrapping her mantle of dark clouds about her, the old year is sliding swiftly to the silent hands of death, while overhead we see, fair Luna in her silver beauty flooding with a glorious light a pathway for the new. The old is resting; emblem of death. The new approaches; emblem of life, and let us my friends try to keep the record of our remaining years or days, more spotless than those which have gone before. Thy moments fast are fitting and ere the silver cord is loosed we will bid you a long and fond good night. Farewell old year, farewell, forever.

Sisters and friends I send to you greetings of love for a happy new year. Mrs. Wilkinsons especially, do I hold in tender memory, and love her for the great patience and kindness she shows towards all. Uncle Charlie the brave, and the true, has brightened many lives and our hearts go forth in love to you.

After my last letter to Comfort my mail grew so heavy that it was impossible to reply to all. Don't think my friends that I'm unappreciative for that would be a mistake, and do heartily thank you every one for the beautiful words your letters and cards contained. Mine has been a life of sorrow and well able am I to cherish your words of love.

To my Maryland friend who is married, congratulations.

To Mrs. of Va. who asked assistance, will say that so far as the wealth of the world is concerned I have none of it, but had I even a little those who are worthy would not go empty away. However, rich or poor, there are none of us, if so disposed, but can help each other. To the many who have sent literature of different kinds I will say that it all finds a hearty welcome.

To the mother who gave the little one my name, you do not know how pleasant this is to me. And now let I completely weary the patience of our long suffering editor, I will fondly say good night.

EMMA LEE OLMSTEAD, Maxton, N. C.

DEAR MRS. WILKINSON:

Will you permit me space in your pleasant corner for a little chat with you and the corresponding sisters? I want to answer several questions about our great state, Arkansas.

Lawrence, Green and Clay counties are good for almost all productions, especially corn and cotton, and since the people have been ditching and draining these counties are still more productive as well as much more healthy. Randolph county (in which I live) is broken and rocky, yet much land produces well. As to government lands, I know but little about them, but it is said there is some government land in Randolph county, near here, which can be used successfully as fruit farms.

Yes, the fine water for liver and stomach trouble; would buy these springs (or the land) that this could be made one of the best health resorts in the state. The man who owned this land died a few years ago, and his widow cannot carry out his plans in building on the railroad. Hence many who would come here for health feel that the road is not very rough. To some the scenery here is beautiful.

Sister E. G. Bond. You ask about schools and churches: We have a real good school building of seven rooms. Though only three rooms are finished and ready for use it can be made a fine high school. We have two churches ready for and in use.

Sister Bond, I will say that a man can raise almost any kind of produce in Arkansas. Yes, men plough with one horse; they usually prepare the ground with double teams. Yes, some use cultivators. Land rents for cash or one third or one quarter of the

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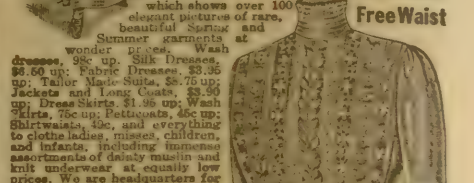


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crop, or if the land holder furnishes everything the renter gives him one half of the crop.

Dear Mrs. Wilkinson. I like to reread Comfort letters. I was looking over the August number last night. I'm sure Mrs. Falconer is doing a great work for girls. I scarcely can prevent a feeling of covetousness. I would be so glad to be in a position to do a like work; yet I remember I am to stand in my lot and do my individual work; I often think that one reason we (as Christians) do so little is because we neglect the little things of life's duty, when if we would enter the door partly ajar that our Master would spread the door of usefulness wide open. Our Allwise Heavenly Father desires to train and teach us little by little, thus strengthening us for larger work and now let me thank Mr. Gannett for his kindness in letting us have space in his most excellent paper for our Sisters' Corner. I am sure we may all do a great work through it by exchanging thoughts on our Christian duties as well as on other lines.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17.)

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The Coward of the Regiment

By William S. Birge, M. D.

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THE officers of her Majesty's Twenty-fourth and Eighty-fourth Infantry, were sitting round their mess-table, in Castletown, the capital of the Isle of Man, one evening, more than twenty years ago, that is, all of them except one; but then, that one was only Jones. Nobody minded Jones; even his peculiarities had begun to be an old subject for "chaffing"; and, indeed, he had paid such small attention to their "chaffing" that they had come to find it little pleasure, and after some weeks of discomfort, Lieutenant Jones had been allowed to choose his own pleasures without much interference.

These were not extravagant. A favorite book, a long walk in all kinds of weather, and a sail when the weather was favorable. He would not drink—he said it hurt his feelings; he would not gamble—he said it hurt his conscience; and he did not care for the pleasures of the capital—he said it hurt his affections. Once Captain De Reuzy hesitatingly wondered whether it was possible to "hurt his honor," and Jones calmly answered that "it was not possible for Captain De Reuzy to do so."

Indeed, Jones constantly violated all these gentlemen's ideas of proper behavior, but for some reason or other, no one brought him to account for it. It was easier to shrug their shoulders and call him "queer," or say, "It was only Jones," or even to quietly assert his cowardice. One evening, Colonel Underwood was discussing a hunting-party for the next day. Jones walked into the room, and was immediately accosted: "Something new, Lieutenant. I find there are plenty of hares on the island, and we mean to give puss a run tomorrow. I have heard you are a good rider; will you join us?"

"You must excuse me, Colonel; such a thing is neither in my way of duty, nor my pleasure." "You forget the honor the colonel does you, Jones," said young Ensign Powell. "I thank the colonel for his courtesy, but I can see no good reason for accepting it. I am sure my horse will not improve of it; and I am sure the hare will not like it; and I am not a good rider; therefore I should not enjoy it."

"You need not be afraid," said the colonel, rather sneeringly; "the country is quite open, and these low Manx walls are easily taken."

"Excuse me, Colonel. I am afraid. If I should be hurt, it would cause my mother and sisters very great alarm and anxiety. I am very much afraid of doing this."

What was to be done with a man so obtuse regarding conventionalities, and who boldly asserted his cowardice. The colonel turned away, half contemptuously, and Ensign Powell took Jones's place.

The morning proved to be a very bad one, with the prospect of a rising storm; and as the party gathered in the barracks-yard, Jones said earnestly to his colonel: "I am afraid, sir, you will meet with a severe storm."

"I think so, Lieutenant, but we promised to dine at Gwynne Hall and we shall get that far, at any rate."

So they rode rather gloomily away in the rain. Jones attended to the military duties assigned him, and then, about noon, walked seaward. It was hard work by this time to keep his footing on the narrow quay; but amid the blinding spray and mist, he saw quite a crowd of men going rapidly toward the great smiling Scarlet Rocks, a mile beyond the town. He stopped an old sailor and asked: "In anything wrong?"

"A little steamer, sir, off to Calf of Man; she is driving this way; an' intee, I fear she will be on ta rocks afore ta night."

Jones stood still a moment, and then followed the crowd as fast as the storm would let him. When he joined them, they were gathered on the summit of a huge cliff, watching the doomed craft. She was now within sight, and it was evident that her men had almost lost all control over her. She must before long be flung by the waves upon the jagged and frightful rocks toward which she was driving. In the lulls of the wind, not only the booming of the minute-gun, but also the shouts of the imperilled crew could be heard.

"What can be done?" said Jones, to an old man, whose face betrayed the strongest emotion. "Nothing, sir, I am afraid. If she had managed to round ta rocks, there are plenty of men who would have risked life, to save life. But how are we to reach them from this height?"

"How far are we above water?"

"This rock goes down like a wall, forty fathoms, sir."

"What depth of water at the foot?"

"Thirty feet or more."

"Good. Have you plenty of light, strong rope?"

"Much as you want, sir; but let me tell you, sir, you can't live three minutes down there; ta first wave will throw you on ta rocks and dash you to pieces. Plenty of us would put you down, sir, but you can't swim if you get down."

"Do you know, old man, what surf swimming is?"

"I have dived through the surf at Nukuhiva."

"God bless you, sir! I thought no white man could do that same."

While this conversation was going on, Jones was divesting himself of all superfluous clothing, and cutting out the sleeves of his heavy pea-jacket with his pocket-knife. This done he passed some light, strong rope through them.

The men watched him with eager interest, and seeing their inquisitive looks, he said: "The thick sleeves will prevent the rope cutting my body, you see."

"Ay, ay, sir, I see now what you are doing."

"Now men, I have only one request: Give me plenty of rope as fast as I draw on you. When I get on board, you know how to make a cradle, I suppose?"

"Ay, ay, sir; but how are you going to reach the water?"

"I am going to plunge down. I have dived from the main yard of the Ajax before this. It was as high a leap."

He passed a double coil of the rope round his waist, examined it thoroughly to see that there was plenty to start with and saying, "now, friends, stand out of the way, and let me have a clear start," he raised his bare head one moment toward heaven, and taking a short run, leaped, as from the spring-board of a plunge bath.

Such an anxious crowd as followed that leap! Great numbers, in spite of the dangerous wind, lay flat on their breasts and watched him. He struck the water at least twenty-five feet beyond the cliff, and disappeared in its dark, foamy depths.

to fasten a strong cable to the small rope and draw it on board, and then a second cable, and the communication was complete.

"There is a lady here, sir," said the captain. "We must rig up a chair for her; she can never walk that dangerous road."

"But we have not a moment to waste, or we may all be lost. Is she very heavy?"

"A slight little thing; half a child, sir."

"Bring her here."

There was no time for ceremony; without a word, save a few sentences of direction and encouragement, he took her under his left arm, and steadying himself by the upper cable, walked on the lower with his burden safely to the shore. The crew rapidly followed, for in such moments of extremity the soul masters the body and all things become possible.

There was plenty of help waiting for the half dead seamen; and the lady, her father, and the captain, had been put in the carriage of Braddon, and driven rapidly to his hospitable hall. Jones, amid the confusion, disappeared; he had picked up an oil-skin coat and cap, and when everyone turned to thank their deliverer, he was gone. No one knew him; the sailors said they believed him to be "one of the military gents, by his rigging," but the individuality of the hero had troubled no one until the danger was over. In an hour the steamer was driven on the rocks, and went to pieces; and it being by this time quite dark, everyone went home.

The next day the hunting party returned from Gwynne Hall, the storm having compelled them to stop over night, and at dinner that evening the wreck and the hero of it were the theme of everyone's conversation.

"Such a plucky fellow," said Ensign Powell. "I wonder who he was. Gwynne says he was a stranger, perhaps one of that crowd staying at the abbey."

"Perhaps," said Captain Marks, "it was Jones."

"Oh, Jones would be too afraid of his mother," Jones made a little satirical bow, and said pleasantly: "Perhaps it was Powell," at which Powell laughed and said, "not if he knew it."

In a week the event had been pretty well exhausted; especially as there was to be a great and honest ball at Braddon, and all the officers had invitations. This ball had a peculiar interest, for the young lady who had been saved from the wreck would be present, and rumors of her riches and beauty had been rife for several days. It was said the little steamer was her father's private yacht and that he was a man of rank and influence.

Jones said he should not go to the dinner, as either he or Saville must remain for evening drill, and that Saville loved a good dinner, while he cared very little about it. Saville could return in time to let him ride over about ten o'clock and see the dancing. Saville, rather wondering why Jones did not take his place all the evening, and felt half-injured at his default. But Jones had a curiosity about the girl he had saved. To tell the truth, he was nearer in love with her than he had ever been with any woman, and he wished in calm blood to see if she was as beautiful as his fancy had painted her, during those few awful minutes that he had held her high above the waves.

She was exceedingly lovely, just the fresh, innocent girl he had known she would be. He watched her dancing with his brother-officers, or talking to her father or leaning on Braddon's arm, and every time he saw her she looked fairer and sweeter. Yet he had not courage to ask for an introduction and in the busy ballroom no one seemed to remember that he needed one. He kept his post against the conservatory door quite undisturbed for some time. Presently he saw Squire Braddon with the beauty on his arm approaching him. As they passed, the Squire remembered he had not been to dinner and stopped to say a few courteous words, and introduced his companion.

"Miss Conyers."

"Lieutenant Jones."

But no sooner did Miss Conyers hear Lieutenant Jones's voice, than she gave a joyful cry, and clapping her hands together, said:

"I have found him! Papa! Papa! I have found him!"

Never was there such an interruption to a ball. The company gathered in excited groups, and papa knew the lieutenant's voice, and the captain knew it, and poor Jones, unwillingly enough, had to acknowledge the deed and be made a hero of.

It was wonderful, after this night, what a change took place in Jones's quiet ways. His books and even seemed to have lost their charm, and as for his walks, they were all in one direction, and ended at Braddon Hall. In about a month Miss Conyers went away, then Jones began to haunt the postman, and to get pretty little letters which always seemed to take a great deal of answering.

Before the end of the winter, he had an invitation to Conyers to spend a month, and a furlough being granted, he started off in great glee for Kent. Jones never returned to the Eighty-fourth. The month's furlough was indefinitely lengthened—in fact he sold out, and entered upon a diplomatic career under the care of Sir Thomas Conyers.

Eighteen months after the wreck, Colonel Underwood read aloud at the mess a description of the marriage of Thomas Jones, of Milford Haven, to Mary, only child and heiress of Sir Thomas Conyers, of Conyers Castle, Kent. And a paragraph below stated that "The Honorable Thomas Jones, with his bride, had gone to Vienna on diplomatic service of great importance."

"Just his luck," said Powell.

"Just his luck," said Underwood; "and for my part, when I come across any of these fellows again that are afraid of hurting their mothers and sisters, and not ashamed to say so, I shall treat him as a hero just waiting for his opportunity. Here is to the Honorable Thomas Jones and his lovely bride! we are going to India, gentlemen, next month, and I am sorry the Eighty-fourth has lost Lieutenant Jones; for I have no doubt whatever, he would have stormed a fort as bravely as he boarded a wreck."

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

Yes, I too, wish we had a whole publication of our own called "Kindred Spirits," but while we are forced to condense our thoughts, let us improve this privilege, hoping to do good in our small corner until God gives us a more excellent way.

Now dear Comfort sisters, let's appreciate all of earth's blessings by trying to live more Christlike in 1912 than we did in 1911. Happy New Year to all.

I remain, sincerely yours for truth and right, Mrs. J. R. EDWARDS, Ravenden Springs, Ark.

DEAR COMFORT FRIENDS:

As I have never seen a letter from Lancaster will write one.

I enjoy reading the COMFORT more than any other paper and lots of times when I have felt downhearted and sad its many good letters have given me new life and courage. I would rather read than do anything else, but haven't had the time lately. My mother has been sick and I am kept busy with the household affairs.

I do feel sorry for all the suffering ones. Not anything touches my heart more than a poor, sick or crippled person. Those who have always had good health seldom know how to appreciate it, or can sympathize with the sick. I was sick last summer and know how to cheer the suffering in my days to come.

I agree with Mrs. Emma Knepper on not mistreating a fallen girl, for we don't know the cause. Oh! there would be so many boys and girls saved from ruin, if someone would only give them, when in trouble, a



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Would like to hear from sisters of my age. Miss HELEN JACOBSON, Calumet, Box 724, Mich. Helen. I should think that an appropriate name for that calf would be Comfort; that is, if it's not already named, for you were thinking of and writing to us on that eventful day. I hope it will thrive and in time be a financial benefit. You must keep hold of your cheerfulness, for there is no path but is easier traveled, and no shadow on the heart but will sooner disappear for the one with determined cheerfulness. And the gift of profiting by contact with things and people must be yours, for you have acquired much knowledge, though denied the advantages of schooling. My day is brighter for your good wishes to us all. Thank you.—Ed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

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Father of the American Navy

CONTINUED FROM FEBRUARY.

RESUMING our narrative at the point whence we digressed to tell the story of the flag,—Jones's departure from Portsmouth was delayed until October 31, waiting for despatches from Congress which he was to carry, and among them the announcement of the surrender of the British General Burgoyne and his entire army, thus far the most important event of the war. Bearing this thrilling news to Benjamin Franklin, the head of our embassy at the French Court, he made a quick voyage, capturing two English merchant ships on the way and taking them along as prizes.

Jones had been promised that on his arrival in France he should be provided with a much larger ship, but international complications prevented its delivery, so he devoted the winter to overhauling the Ranger preparatory to a spring cruise around the British Isles and to making the acquaintance of the leading men of France, not to mention the ladies whose society he much enjoyed and by whom he was much admired.

He renewed his acquaintance with the Duke of Chartres, the young "Sailor Prince," who had kindly furnished him the plans of the French frigate Terpsichore nearly three years before. The Duke, now an admiral, was second in command of the great French fleet that wintered in the harbor of Brest as did the Ranger, and at his magnificent chateau in Brest he and his charming Duchess entertained in a style that rivaled the brilliant social functions of Paris. The Duke not only treated Jones with official courtesy but made him welcome at his home and introduced him to his wife, the handsomest, most high minded, most liberal and best French woman of her time, as well as the richest. Like her husband, she was of royal blood, being the great-granddaughter of King Louis XIV. The Duchess took as great a fancy to Jones as her husband had, and the marked attentions with which they honored him gave him entrance to the highest social circles of France.

They were ardent champions of American independence and exerted their influence to induce the French government to give military support to the cause, and they assisted Jones in every possible way. Their services, and especially her generous financial aid, without which Jones's best efforts would have been paralyzed, are deserving of the grateful remembrance of America.

The small amount of money that our government was able to provide, fell far short of what was necessary to fit out Jones's ships, pay his crews or even feed the prisoners of war that he captured on British ships and had on his hands in France; after using his private resources, he was still in desperate need of funds for these purposes. Repeatedly on such occasions she came to the rescue and supplied him the necessary money, although Jones never asked it, and when he expressed reluctance to accept such large favors she replied in her queenly way, "I command you to accept it; this is my offering to the great cause."

She knew that her command carried obedience with the chivalrous nature of Jones whose gallantry of deed and word she likened to that of the most famous knights of old. She used to speak of him as the "untitled knight of the sea,"—prophetically, it would seem, of the real knight-hood and title subsequently conferred on him by the King.

Her total contributions to Jones's war equipment amounted to more than fifty thousand dollars.

Jones was the soul of honor in financial as well as in all other matters, and when, a few years after the war, as a result of his success in business he was able and wished to repay the Duchess he asked her husband if it would be proper for him to offer to do so. "Not unless you wish to forfeit her friendship," responded the Duke. "She did not lend you the money, she gave it to the cause."

In April, 1778, Jones was ready to start on his cruise in the Ranger against the British coast and the Duke of Chartres gave a dinner party in honor of the event. On this occasion the Duchess presented him with a beautiful watch which her grandfather, a distinguished High Admiral had worn.

In accepting this priceless token of her esteem Jones thanked her and added: "May it please your Royal Highness, if fortune should favor me at sea, I will some day lay an English frigate at your feet."

Though incapable of literal fulfillment Jones performed his promise symbolically in a manner that delighted the Duchess. At a banquet which they gave in celebration of his world renowned victory over the powerful English frigate Serapis Jones presented her with the sword which the British commander had worn in battle and surrendered with his ship.

To return to the cruise of the Ranger—Jones sailed boldly along the west coast of England until off Whitehaven where he lay his ship to and landed with two boats' crews in the early morning intending to burn the shipping in the harbor. He surprised and captured the two forts but before he was able to set fire to many of the ships a general alarm was given, the militia assembled in large numbers and he had to return to the Ranger. A few hours later he landed at St. Mary's Isle off the coast of Scotland in the hope of capturing the Earl of Selkirk in his castle, but the Earl was absent. Jones might easily have burned the castle and laid waste the estate in retaliation of Lord Dunmore's destruction of his plantation but instead he even returned the Earl's silverware which his men took without his knowledge. Jones bought it of his sailors and shipped it back, costing him about \$700.00.

Thence continuing his cruise off the Irish coast, he fell in with the British ship Drake carrying twenty guns and 157 men against the Ranger's eighteen guns and crew of 126, and captured her after an hour and four minutes of fierce fighting. The Ranger was but little injured in the battle and her crew lost only three killed and five wounded, while the Drake was nearly sunk and lost nineteen killed and twenty-eight wounded. Jones credited his victory to the superior gunnery of his crew.

Jones had captured one merchant ship before the battle and had sent her to France, and he now returned to Brest with the Drake and a merchant ship captured on the way back. The first two days after his arrival he was kept busy receiving the visits and congratulations of the officers of the great French war fleet who could scarcely believe their eyes as they saw that one of his prizes was a British war ship larger and more powerful than the Ranger. Since England had become mistress of the sea no British man-of-war had ever before surrendered to a smaller ship or even to one of equal size. Jones's exploit broke the record and showed to the world that the young republic was to be a rival of England in sea power. As Jones had expected, his short cruise of a month had spread consternation through the seaports and shipping circles of England, and the British government paid him the compliment of denouncing him as a traitor and a pirate, and threatening to treat him as such if they caught him.

Our government was so short of funds that Jones had to sell the merchant ship and her cargo to raise money to feed his crew and his prisoners and to repair the Ranger and the Drake. France had entered into an alliance with the United States and was now at war with England. The Ranger returned to America under command of Lieutenant Simpson, and Jones remained in France waiting for a larger ship promised him by the French government. After waiting five

months he became impatient at the excuses and delays of the French officials, and by advice of the Duke of Chartres he wrote a letter which the Duchess delivered into the King's hands. As a result the King summoned Jones to the palace, and after a very pleasing interview issued an order that a French frigate should be placed at his disposal at once.

Jones declared that without her aid he never could have obtained this ship in which he won his most renowned victory, and when he called to express his gratitude she informed him that she had ordered her banker to place a sum of money to his credit (a large sum) for expenses of equipment, and added that he must not feel under obligation nor even thank her for it.

The ship that was assigned to him, however, was not a frigate nor even a regular war ship, but a large, old East India merchant ship which the French government had recently purchased and fitted up for use as an armed transport. When turned over to Jones in February she required so much in the way of alterations and refitting that it took him until June to get her ready for sea. The French naval arsenals seemed to be short of ordnance and the best Jones could get were old cannon, some of which, including all the largest, proved worse than useless by bursting the first time they were fired in battle and killing or wounding many of his crew. The ship was slow, hard to steer, clumsy and difficult to maneuver; very bad faults for a war ship. When ready for sea she mounted 42 guns of various sizes but because of defects was no more than equal to a first rate 32 gun frigate.

The original name of this ship was "el Duras," but Jones changed it to "Bon Homme Richard" in honor of Benjamin Franklin who wrote under that nom de plume.

Jones preferred American sailors which he claimed were the best in the world because equally brave and quicker, and more alert in seamanship and in battle than the British who were then the accepted type of excellence in marine and naval accomplishments.

After much difficulty Jones enlisted a crew of 375 men, of whom 240 were seamen of various nationalities, and the other 135 were French soldiers who were armed with muskets and served as a marine guard. Of the 240 sailors less than 150 were Americans, and these latter were Jones's main reliance in battle as many of them had served under him before and he knew he could rely on them to follow him to victory or death.

About the first of August he sailed in the Bon Homme Richard thus manned and equipped, and having with him under his command three other ships. They were the Alliance, an able new, 38 gun American frigate recently arrived from America, with an American crew, commanded by the cowardly traitor Captain Landais, who had been dismissed from the French navy in disgrace but managed to fool Congress into giving him a captain's commission; the Pallas, an old, second rate 32 gun French frigate, commanded by the brave and skillful Captain Cottineau of the French Navy; the Vengeance, a little French brig carrying 12 six-pounder guns commanded by Captain Ricot. This was an allied squadron under command of John Paul Jones, now Commodore of the American Navy. Two of these ships, the Bon Homme Richard and the Alliance, belonged to the American Navy, the former being given or loaned by France; the other two belonged to the French Navy and sailed under French commissions.

With this squadron he sailed northerly along the entire west coasts of Ireland and Scotland, doubled the northern extremity of the latter country and cruised southerly along its east coast, capturing a large number of valuable merchant ships and sending them to France with prize crews.

On the afternoon of September 23, 1779, off Flamboro Head, Jones came in sight of a fleet of forty-one British merchant ships guarded by two war ships, the larger of which was the fine, new 44 gun frigate Serapis, much more powerful than the Richard, and the smaller was the Countess of Scarborough, a little smaller than the Pallas.

The merchant ships, which were nearer the land, made for port as fast as they could with the light wind and the Scarborough remained near to protect them while the Serapis put out to sea to intercept the American ships.

Jones directed the Pallas to go after the Countess of Scarborough, which brave Cottineau did and after a sharp battle of an hour captured her.

He ordered the little Vengeance to keep out of the fight because she was too small for the heavy work in hand.

He signalled the Alliance to form in line with the Richard to meet the Serapis, but the cowardly Landais ran off to sea. The Alliance was the best ship of her size afloat and probably the fastest. Had her captain obeyed orders, with her assistance Jones could have made short work of the Serapis and probably could have captured or destroyed a large part of the merchant fleet which, as it was got safely away.

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As the Serapis and Richard drew together Jones maneuvered to get to windward and succeeded in doing so, thus gaining a position which it was of the utmost importance to a slow sailing ship like the Richard to hold, and which enabled him to force the battle at close quarters wherein lay his only possible chance of success.

The wind was so light that the two ships were a long time coming together and it was a quarter past seven (more than an hour after sunset and a full moon shining bright) when the battle began with a broadside from the Richard at six hundred feet distance. The eighteen-pounder guns of the Richard burst at the very first discharge, killing and wounding a number of her crew, and so the heaviest part of her battery had to be abandoned at the beginning of the action. There was continuous broadsiding by both ships for some time, but the Richard now had only her 28 twelve-pounders and eight nine-pounders which were no match for the Serapis's 20 eighteen-pounders, 22 twelve-pounders and 8 nine-pounders, and she soon became riddled with shot holes both above and below her water line, practically all her guns except three of the nine-pounders on her quarter-deck had been dismantled or otherwise put out of action by the enemy's shot, and the slaughter among her crew was terrible, half the men in her gun deck being killed or wounded. Jones saw that this sort of thing, if continued, would soon sink him; in fact his ship was already leaking badly and had begun to settle, threatening to sink, and with the few guns that remained serviceable he could inflict but trifling damage on the enemy. The Richard was helplessly at the mercy of her powerful antagonist. As though Jones hadn't troubles enough the Alliance came up just then and fired two broadsides into the Richard.

In this disastrous situation, to any other commander than Jones further resistance would have appeared hopeless and surrender would have been deemed the only proper course to avoid the useless sacrifice of the lives of his crew. Whether he had determined to die fighting rather than surrender is not known, for Jones was the last man to acknowledge such a resolve lest he should

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be regarded as boasting, but it is reasonably certain that destruction would have been the result of his refusal to surrender had he not turned defeat into victory by the successful performance of a brilliant move.

There was just one maneuver which, if he could execute it with his slow and clumsy ship before she sank under the terrific fire of the enemy, offered a possible, though desperate chance of victory.

If he could bring his ship alongside the Serapis and hold her there with grappling irons so that he could board her it would give him a chance to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)

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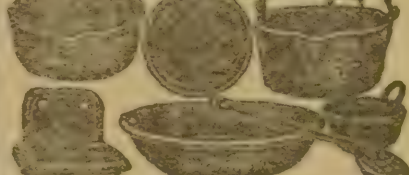
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John Paul Jones

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

try to conquer the British crew in a hand-to-hand fight on the deck of the enemy's ship.

Jones resolved to risk all and make the attempt, though the odds were against him even if he succeeded in reaching the enemy's deck because the British crew was larger than his to start with and thus far had suffered less in the battle.

The British captain fully appreciated his great advantage in standing off and pounding the helpless Richard to pieces with his heavy guns, and tried his best to keep his distance when Jones attempted to close in on him. As the Serapis was the faster and smarter ship Jones could not have accomplished this feat had he not had the forethought to get to windward of the Englishman before the battle and to keep that position. The wind was very light and by the time Captain Pearson discovered what Jones was up to the sails of the Richard took the wind away from the Serapis and left the latter unable to get out of the way. The Serapis was almost motionless as the Richard headed in the opposite direction slowly grazed alongside. Jones grappled; the grapple broke and it seemed that the Richard would push on past, but just as the two ships got side by side the fluke of the anchor which projected from the bow of the Serapis caught in the mizzen rigging of the Richard close to the rail of the quarter deck on which Jones was standing. It brought a tremendous strain on the rigging. Would the rigging break or would it hold and stop the headway of the ship? It was a moment of fatal interest. The rigging held and Jones sprang to the rail and with his own hands lashed the anchor securely to his own rigging.

The British sailors made repeated efforts to cut the anchor loose and as the fate of the battle depended on this Jones gave it his especial attention; he ordered his French marines to guard it, and he not only directed their fire but whenever any of the enemy approached it he took one of their muskets and fired himself; a dozen or more of the English were shot in these attempts, many of them it is said, by Commodore Jones, which is probably true as he was a wonderfully fine marksman.

While Jones was lashing the anchor the Richard's flag was shot down and her chief gunner proposed to surrender. Captain Pearson asked if they meant to surrender, to which Jones replied, "I have just begun to fight."

In regard to this episode Captain Pearson afterwards said, "This I at first thought to be mere bravado on his part. But I soon perceived that it was the defiance of a man desperate enough, if he could not conquer, to sink with his ship alongside."

As all the Richard's guns were now useless except three of the nine-pounders on the quarter-deck, which latter were used with good effect throughout the action, Jones now armed his crew with muskets and sent many of them up into the rigging with hand grenades also. Others he stationed on the fore-castle forward and the quarter-deck aft, both of which were higher on the Richard than on the Serapis. From these positions of vantage they delivered such a sharp musket fire that the gunners were soon driven from the upper deck of the Serapis, but on her lower deck, where the big eighteen-pounders were, the men were sheltered by the deck above, and these large guns kept shooting through and through the Richard making fearful havoc, and finally setting her on fire.

Jones had about 200 British prisoners below decks in the Richard, and as the ship was now leaking badly and seemed to be sinking the guard let these prisoners up on deck. At first they attempted to mutiny, but Jones overruled them and made them work the pumps to keep the ship afloat and also to put out the fire that was burning in several parts of the ship.

Just at this time, when things were at the very worst for Jones, the traitor Landais came back again and swinging the Alliance across the bows of the Richard fired another broadside into her which did great damage and killed and wounded a number of her crew; then he deserted and nothing more was seen of the Alliance until they reached port in Holland.

In the history of the world no other man than Jones ever dreamed of keeping up a fight under such hopeless conditions, but he had no idea of giving up.

Jones noticed that the cover of the main hatch of the Serapis had been knocked partly off by a shot leaving an opening through the upper deck to the lower gun deck, and he ordered Midshipman Fanning and some of his men to crawl out on the Richard's main yard, which overhung the hatch and try to drop a lighted hand grenade (a small explosive bomb) down through this opening in the deck. Fanning's third attempt succeeded and the grenade exploded the powder that was being used to load the big guns on the Serapis and killed or wounded fifty of her crew. In the midst of the confusion which followed Jones ordered Lieutenant Mayrant to board the Serapis with twenty-five or thirty men armed with cutlasses and pistols. In a sharp, short conflict they swept everything before them and when they reached the quarter-deck of the Serapis where Captain Pearson stood he simply had to surrender, hauling down his flag with his own hands.

Captain Pearson was treated most courteously by Commodore Jones when he came on board the Richard to give up his sword and pistols in token of surrender. Besides those handed over at the time of surrender Captain Pearson had in his cabin a jeweled sword and pair of gold-mounted pistols presented him as a mark of honor by the City of Bristol and Jones permitted him to keep these.

Like most men of heroic bravery, Jones was as magnanimous a victor as he was bold and desperate fighter. He pitied Captain Pearson, admired his bravery and sympathized with his evident chagrin in having to surrender, and he said to him: "You have fought heroically. You have worn this sword to your own credit and to the honor of your service. I hope your sovereign will suitably reward you."

That this was not mere flattery is proved by the fact that after a full investigation by court martial the British government did, as Jones had hoped, honor Captain Pearson by conferring on him an order of knighthood for his bravery in this battle, although he lost his ship. This pleased Jones immensely because he considered it a distinguished honor to himself as well as to Captain Pearson; an official acknowledgment by the enemy fighter that it was no disgrace to a British captain to be vanquished by Commodore Jones after putting up a stiff fight.

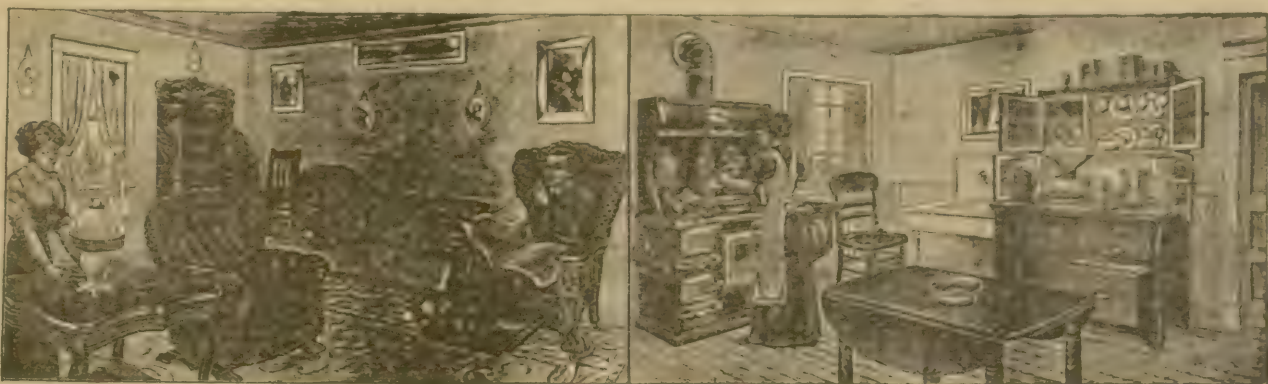
This fierce battle by moonlight and lantern light had raged for about three hours and the surrender came after ten o'clock.

Jones did his best to keep the Richard afloat, but in spite of every effort she sank the next day with her victorious flag flying and carried down her heroic dead to their ocean grave, as described in February COMFORT.

Before the Richard went down all the survivors of her crew including the wounded, and the British prisoners were transferred to the Serapis and the Pallas. Both ships were terribly crowded, and the situation was distressing beyond description because so many had been wounded that there were not enough well ones to care for them and handle the ships; the less severely wounded of Jones's officers and men had to continue on duty.

Of the Richard's crew sixty-seven were killed and one hundred and six severely wounded in this battle. Of the crew of the Serapis eighty-seven were killed in battle, thirteen more died of wounds a few days later and one hundred and twenty-one others were wounded.

Of course Jones wished to bring his captured ships, the Serapis and the Countess of Scarborough, direct to France, but under the stress of circumstances and the weather becoming stormy he ran for the nearest neutral harbor, which was the



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Texel in Holland, where he arrived safely on October 5, with his two prizes and the Pallas and the little Vengeance. There he found the Alliance and he immediately took the command of that ship away from the cowardly Landais, who fled to escape arrest by Jones.

France went wild over this most wonderful victory and celebrated it by illuminations, bonfires and public festivities from one end of the land to the other. Jones was hailed as the greatest of naval heroes and no end of public dinners and balls were given in his honor and the King presented him a jeweled sword and made him a knight of France, conferring on him the title of "Chevalier."

The American Congress gave him a vote of thanks and ordered a special gold medal for him, and recognized his title of knighthood by formal notice to the King of France that his own country had thus honored "the Chevalier John Paul Jones."

His service as Admiral in the navy of Catherine the Great of Russia and his victory over the Turks will be told in April COMFORT.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.)

DEAR SISTERS AND MRS. WILKINSON:
Will you admit a farmer's wife to your cozy corner as I have been a reader of COMFORT for over a year. I live out in the country three miles from the pretty little town of Mt. Gilead. Can any of the sisters tell me where I can get a little boy between the age of two and five years without parents? Husband and I are alone excepting one daughter fifteen years old.
Mrs. S. F. HILLIARD, Mt. Gilead, R. E. 3, Montgomery Co., N. C.

Requests

Mrs. Geo. Morse, Sylvia, Kans., old poem.
Within a garden large and fair,
Filled with flowers bright and fair," etc.
Miss T. C. A. Jerome, Oakland, Cal., poem, "How Christmas came to the Poorhouse."
Miss Hazel Seymour, Midland, R. E. 4, Box 45, Mich., song, "The Indian's Lament."
Mrs. E. Hall, Merkel, Taylor Co., Texas, poem, "A Little Girl's Dream of Santa Claus," and "Hang my Stocking on the Wall."
Miss Beattie Daniels, Edon, R. E. 2, Box 61, Ohio, shut-in letters.
Granville Parker, Alva, R. E. 3, Woods Co., Okla., a cripple, shower.

Remedies

EARACHE.—Two teaspoons of olive oil and one of laudanum. Mix well, slightly warm, and put one drop in the ear every half hour until relieved.
MISS BELLE THOMPSON, Ancho, Lincoln Co., N. M.
RHEUMATISM.—One tablespoon of sulphur mixed with two tablespoons of strained honey. Take every morning before breakfast for five mornings; then skip five mornings, and repeat until cured.
MISS CHLOE LOCKWOOD, Rhineland, Wis.
COUGH.—In a small sauce pan, put some vinegar and add a lump of butter, a little sugar and black pepper. If too strong weaken a little. Will cut phlegm.
NANNIE WICKER, Troy, Tenn.
EARACHE.—Make a small cloth bag, fill with table salt, heat in oven, and lay across ear as hot as can be borne. After the pain stops, remove bag and place a bit of cotton in the ear for a few hours.
MISS MARY GRAHAM MARSHALL, Bedford City, R. E. 1, Va.
SALTS.—When taking salts, add one half teaspoon of peppermint or a third of a teaspoon of powdered ginger and it will act more quickly and prevent bloating.
MISS EMMA PETERSON, Paynesville, R. E. 3, Miss.
CHAPPED HANDS.—Five cents' worth of quince seed soaked over night in little over one half pint of rain-water then stir in five cents' worth of glycerine, then slowly add five cents' worth of benzoine (not benzene) and stir briskly to prevent curdling.
MRS. CLARA EVELYN EARLY, Union City, R. E. 39, Ind.
SORE THROAT.—Pour a pint of boiling water over thirty-five sage leaves of common garden sage; cover and let it stand one hour. Strain, add vinegar to make a pleasant acid and honey to taste. Directions for use: gargle three times a day.—Ed.

Comfort Sisters' Recipes and Every-day Helps.

BUTTER SCOTCH ROLLS.—Take a piece of dough about the size you would use for a small loaf of bread, roll out one half inch thick, cover with butter, brown sugar and cinnamon. Have biscuit pan generously buttered and a sprinkling of brown sugar on bottom. Cut bread dough in long strips, roll and put in pan. Let rise and bake in a hot oven about twenty-five minutes, or until a rich brown.

MISS CLARA EVELYN EARLY, Union City, R. E. 39, Ind.
VEAL LOAF.—Three and one half pounds of minced veal (the leg is best for this purpose), three eggs well-beaten, one tablespoon of pepper and one of salt, one grated nutmeg, four rolled crackers, one tablespoon of cream, butter the size of an egg. Mix these together and make into a loaf; roast and baste like other meats. Beef may be used in place of veal by adding one fourth pound of salt pork, minced fine.

FOREIGN FRUITS.—Dissolve one pint of sugar in one quart of water. Add two quarts of crushed berries, or one quart of preserved berries, cherries, pineapple or peaches. Freeze until like thick mush, then add one pint of cream whipped, and pack in ice and salt.

MISS HELEN A. LYNAN, 24 South Church St., Pittsfield, Mass.

POTTED MEATS.—Use veal, beef or lamb in one or several pieces. Wipe, put into smoking hot frying pan and sear all over until brown. Put into a kettle or bean pot that covers closely, lard the upper surface, add one cup of water and cover. Cook some hours, keeping just water enough in pan to prevent burning, and when nearly done sprinkle with pepper and salt. Remove meat to hot dish or platter, add a little water and make brown gravy.—Ed.

CRULLERS.—Three eggs, six tablespoons of granulated sugar, three tablespoons of cream or milk, and flavor with cardamom. Mix quite hard with flour, roll as thin as possible, cut in diamond shapes and fry in smoking hot fat. (Delicious.)

SWEET CRACKERS.—Two and one half cups of sugar, one half cup of butter, one half cup of lard, two eggs, one and one half cup sweet milk, five cents' worth of baking ammonia dissolved in one half cup of water (leave ammonia in water until dissolved), the grated rind of one lemon, flour enough to roll about the same as cookie dough. Roll very thin, cut in squares and bake in hot oven.

MISS EMMA PETERSON, Paynesville, R. E. 3, Miss.
WHITE WINE VINEGAR.—Mash twenty pounds of raisins and add ten gallons of water. Let stand in a warm place for one month and you will have pure white wine vinegar.

W. H. OBERT, 58 Berkshire Place, Irvington, N. Y.

CHEAP BROWN STONE CAKE.—First beat one half cup each of chocolate, sugar and sweet milk till it dissolves. Remove from fire and while it cools mix two eggs well-beaten with one cup of sugar and one half cup of butter; add one cup of sweet milk, one small teaspoon of soda dissolved in a very little cold water. Beat and add two small cups of sifted flour with one teaspoon of baking powder. Flavor with vanilla and mix with above mixture. Beat again and bake in loaf or layer.

MISS BERTHA DOHRING, Herington, Kans.

FIN CRUST.—Rub together two cups of flour and four rounding tablespoons of lard. Stir in six tablespoons of water and two pinches of salt. Roll thin. For two pies.

CHOCOLATE PIE.—In a double boiler, scald one pint of milk and add two rounding tablespoons of chocolate, and remove from fire to cool. Beat the yolks of two eggs until light, add four heaping tablespoons of sugar, one rounded tablespoon of flour and a pinch of salt. Beat all together and pour into milk. Flavor to taste. Bake, and when done cover with a frosting made of the whites of eggs beaten stiff with two tablespoons of sugar and brown lightly.

MISS VIRGIN E. BUTLER, Williamsport, R. E. 2, Box 60, Tenn.

OLD-FASHIONED JOHNNY-CAKE.—One cup of corn meal, one half cup of flour, three tablespoons of sugar, one scant teaspoon of soda, one cup of sour milk, one egg, two tablespoons of melted butter. Bake about twenty or twenty-five minutes in a hot oven.

MRS. O. E. MASON, Great Neck, Box 13, N. Y.

EGGLESS DOUGHNUTS.—One cup of brown sugar, one cup of very sour milk, one teaspoon of soda, one half teaspoon of grated nutmeg; flour to make a soft dough. Fry in hot fat.

MRS. LILLIE STONE, White Cloud, R. E. 1, Mich.

SAUSAGE.—To keep sausage fresh, fry about half done, put in a stone jar and cover with hot lard. Will keep in summer put up this way.

MRS. REBECCA JINNETT, Thomasville, Tenn.

LOAF CAKE.—Break two eggs into a cup, fill cup with sweet cream; beat well. Add one cup of sugar, flavor, and one and one half cup of flour to which

has been added one and one half teaspoon of baking powder. Bake one hour.

BABBA LACKERLES (COOKIES).—Two pints of sugar, one cup honey, one teaspoon allspice, one teaspoon cinnamon, one cup nut meats, one cup sour milk, one teaspoon baking soda. Plenty flour to roll not too thin. Cut in squares and bake in hot oven. When cold spread with boiled icing.

MRS. JOHN JENNY, Highland, R. E. 4, Ill.

EGGLESS CAKE.—Cream together a piece of butter the size of an egg with one cup of sugar; add one heaping tablespoon of corn starch and stir well. Then one cup of milk and two heaping cups of flour sifted with two teaspoons of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Beat light and smooth and add one teaspoon of vanilla. Bake in two jelly cake tins. Spread jelly or jam between layers. By adding two or three spoons of cocoa and baking as marble cake makes a change.
MRS. FLORENCE PADIN, Richmond, Ind.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 32.)

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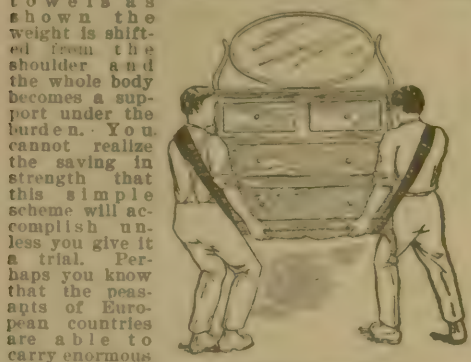
JOHN M. SMYTH AND CO. 150-151 W. Chicago

Handy Household Helps, Easy-to-Make Kitchen Furniture

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Moving Furniture

The picture illustrates a handy way of lifting a heavy piece of furniture. By using the roller

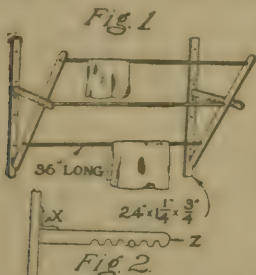


LABOR LIGHTENED.

showed the weight is shifted from the shoulder and the whole body becomes a support under the burden. You cannot realize the saving in strength that this simple scheme will accomplish unless you give it a trial. Perhaps you know that the peasants of European countries are able to carry enormous loads on their heads; it is because the whole strength may be exerted in one direction that this is possible. In our plan the idea is to slip one end of the towel over your shoulder and the other under the article to be moved. In rising you can lift and balance with your hands in a way that is impossible with any other method. It is your duty to preserve your health and this is one means to that end.

Drying Rack

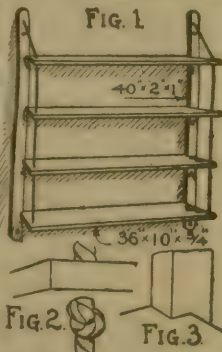
The picture is a collapsible rack for drying clothes. It has quite a large capacity and when not in use lays flat against the wall, entirely



out of the way. It is easily constructed from strips of light wood that may be torn from a soap box, and a few small curtain poles or broom handles. First cut two strips two feet long to go against the wall. A little above the center of each of those attach the notched pieces "Z" by means of a small pair of hinges, one of which is shown by "X". Next make the three rung piece, allowing the central rung to project out two inches on each side. This part with the three poles for holding the clothes is also hinged to the wall pieces as clearly shown by the small pieces "Y". A convenient place for clothes, the rack would be behind the kitchen stove but do not put it close enough to invite danger of a fire. It should be painted like the wall or woodwork. You will find it a help on ironing day and during wet weather when the folks come in with wet clothing.

Shelf

One can hardly have too many shelves around especially where there are a few children with their multitudinous belongings. The sketch represents a simple idea for a rack to be used for toys on any light articles. Two forty-inch strips form the back and to them are nailed four shelves. The corner of each of the shelf boards is notched as shown in Fig. 3. The front corners of the boards have holes bored through them and rope passes through the holes. As a support for the fore ends a knot is tied in the rope immediately under the board, and one may be tied over it to render it more firm. Teaching the children everything and to put everything in its place is made easier by having a special rack for their things.



Moving Stoves

Taking down the heater in the spring and setting it up in the fall is a task and an unpleasant one. If there are three or four men around all is well but where the women have to lend a hand or do the whole thing themselves there is grief.



A WELCOME DEVICE.

I have found by experience that the easiest and safest way to move a stove indoors, is to place it on the broom, have someone steady it and then drag it along. In this way the floor is not injured, there is no danger of tipping the stove over and no one need exert themselves enough to cause a strain. I have also tried it by placing the stove on two or more rugs and pulling them along but the broom is the best. A paste made of whiting and ammonia is good for cleaning and polishing nickel, vinegar is fine for brightening up the isinglass. To remove rust rub with emery cloth and brush with a stiff brush, or in stubborn spots a cloth moistened with kerosene may be rubbed on. To apply polish use a small paint brush and see what an improvement over the rag it is. An old whisk broom makes a good polishing brush.

Cellar Rack

It is well enough to keep your canned stuff in the cellar but when you have to poke around and move a dozen jars to get at the one you want you are apt to long for some improvement on the dark and inaccessible shelves. The little rack shown here is intended to hold one or two bottles of each kind of preserves so that no matter what you want you can go even in the dark and get it. During the bright hours of the day when you have the time and light you can restock it. Here is the way to make it. Get a round pole or a piece of scantling that is about four inches shorter than the distance from the cellar floor to the ceiling, and drive a headless spike in each end. Bore it into the floor and ceiling and insert it at both places. Round wooden disks are then attached to serve as shelves. A hoop at the

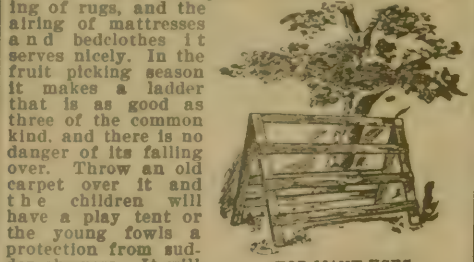


IT PREVENTS HUNTING.

outer edge prevents the jars from falling off. The disks turn very easily and the device will hold a surprisingly large amount of stuff. Such a rack will be found useful in any part of the home that is used for storage purposes.

Dooryard Rack

This homely contraption is as useful as a hired man around the dooryard. For the weekly dust-

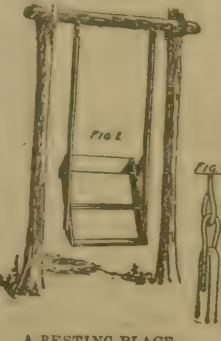


FOR MANY USES.

ing of rugs, and the airing of mattresses and bedclothes it serves nicely. In the fruit picking season it makes a ladder that is as good as three of the common kind, and there is no danger of its falling over. Throw an old carpet over it and the children will have a play tent or the young fowls a protection from sudden showers. It will also find favor as a drying rack and in dozens of other ways that will suggest themselves to you before you have it around long. It should be neatly made and painted a dark green.

Swing

Perhaps you do not know that a swing near the dooryard is a fine thing for your mending. I saw a

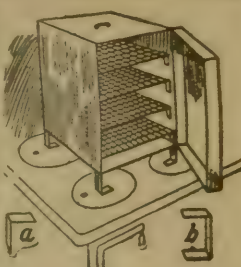


A RESTING PLACE.

dear old lady in a swing made somewhat upon the plan of the accompanying sketch and a talk with her developed the fact that it was her place for a daily siesta. The beam at the top may be fastened to a fork and on the other side a heavy bracket may be spiked on as shown. Long pieces of scantling or poles are used to hang the seat, instead of ropes as is usually the case. Fig. 2 shows how the fastening is secured at the top. The seat has a back rest and is very comfortable. It does not swing as easily as the common type and is intended as a lounging place to spend a sweet hour outdoors. It would be a boon to many an invalid or infirm old person but the hard-working housewife will find it of use, too. Don't put aside all the comforts of life until you are too old to enjoy them. The modern woman knows that an hour's relaxation each day will work wonders in keeping her youthful.

Drying Box

The illustration suggests a plan whereby a tin bread box may be converted into an oven useful for keeping food warm or drying fruit or vegetables for preservation. The box when placed in some cool place is also convenient for cooling pies and puddings. The shelves are made of screen stretched over wire frames. They rest upon metal straps, bent L shaped, which may be soldered or riveted in place. Common nail heads make good rivets in a pinch. The rests may be made of short lengths of a tub hoop. The legs "B" will have to be a little heavier. The shelves should be simply laid upon the rests without fastening, so that they may be easily removed. This permits you to use the box as a bread raiser. In this case it would be well to have a panel of tin glass in the door so that you could watch the sponge without having to open it every time. Something like this is needed in every kitchen in the land.



FOR DIFFERENT PURPOSES.

Ironing Board

Setting up the ironing board each week causes not a little trouble to the housewife. It takes up so much room and is so hard to balance on the back of a chair that ironing is dreaded by all members of the family. In fact it has been said that nothing can be done in the same room where ironing is going on.



A TIME SAVER.

The sketch shows one way of setting up a board without calling a table and chair into use. On one side of the kitchen window is a hinged leg which folds up out of the way and may be instantly pulled down and made ready for use. The small drawing "B" shows the end of the board that goes against the wall. It has two hooks driven into it which fit into screw eyes permanently attached to the wall. The device although simple and inexpensive gives good satisfaction. It is especially for homes where two people wish to iron in the same room.

Preserving Meat

In some parts of the country, particularly those of high altitude where the air is dry, meats may be kept fresh by hanging outside. The main trouble is to protect it from insects. The simple plan we illustrate is a good way out of the difficulty. Over three small wooden hoops stretch light gauze, closing it at the top and leaving a tie string at the bottom. The meat is then hung up as shown and a current of fresh air is assured. Insects cannot get to it and flying particles of dust will be filtered out by the cloth. It is well to observe here that mosquito netting or any coarse meshed fabric is next to useless as a covering for food. It only forms a catch all for germs and dust and permits disease to get a foothold when it is least expected. Meats that are slightly decayed may often be made fresh by a bath in strong soda water. It is best, however, to avoid all questionable food as ptomaine poisoning is frequently the result of eating it, and many cases of it have proven fatal.



FREE FROM DUST.

Handy Truck

Here is a handy truck that will amply repay you for the time spent in making it. To begin with get a sound piece of scantling about two feet long and to it attach the iron shoe shown in Fig.

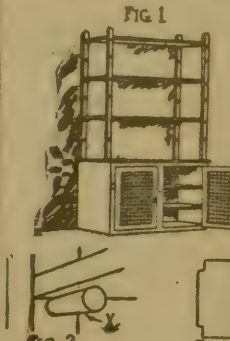
A. You will have to get a blacksmith to do the shaping for you but the cost will be slight. For wheels use wooden disks or wheels from some discarded farm implement. The handle of the truck is a piece of split hickory of oak. The splitting is done by first sawing to the center and then soaking the sawed half in hot water for a few hours. It will then bend without breaking but as an added precaution the narrow end of the slit should be wrapped with wire. With one of these trucks a woman of average strength can move barrels and boxes without endangering her health. Simply get the iron shoe under the load and tip back on the handle and an ordinarily heavy burden will seem very light. If you have occasion to move any heavy articles at any time you had better have one of those labor savers made or make one yourself.



THE HEAVY BURDEN MADE LIGHTER.

Cellar Shelves

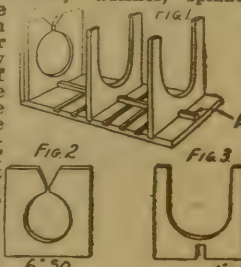
It is hard enough to attach shelves to a brick wall but when the cellar is built of cement or stone it is next to impossible. The idea of hanging the shelf supports from the floor joist overhead has been the cause of so much disaster that I would not recommend it. The picture shows a neat arrangement of adjustable shelves that rest solidly on the floor of the cellar. For the base you can make over a large packing case into a cupboard, using screen for the door to insure an air supply. For the upright posts of the shelf portion use scantling, with half inch holes bored every three inches for the pegs to fit into. The shelf boards rest upon those pegs as shown in Fig. 2. If the ends of the boards are shaped like Fig. 3 it will be impossible for them to slip out of place. The pegs may be raised or lowered any time to suit the size of the article to be stored. An arrangement like the one pictured would also be found of value in the attic or storeroom.



ONCE USED NEVER DISCARDED.

Vegetable Buncher

Here is a little device for bunching and tying vegetables such as onions, radishes, spinach, beets, etc. It is made of light half inch pine in the manner clearly illustrated by the picture. Two of the upright parts are adjustable and may be lifted from one groove to another to accommodate vegetables of different length. It will enable you to make the bunches of uniform size and to even the ends nicely. When the stalks are pressed in, they are in a position that makes tying very easy. The size of each part is marked and the artist has made the plan so plain that I do not think it necessary to explain further. I would like to hear from any of you who use this plan, and from others who have any questions to ask about it.



THE FARMER'S WORK MADE EASIER.

Pantry Plan

One usually has so many pans and cooking utensils that the convenient storing becomes a vexation. They are placed one inside the other and when you want to use a certain pie tin or pan it is generally on the bottom. At home my mother was annoyed frequently in this way and finally she decided on the plan that is illustrated herewith. To the underside of each shelf in the buttery I nailed blocks three inches wide and one inch thick and to them I fastened light strips. This made an additional shallow shelf for each one of the large ones, and they proved to be very convenient. In the picture "C" is the block, and "S" the strips. The lower sketch shows how simple the device is. It is better to use strips than a solid board because the latter would hold the dust and dirt and it would be quite difficult to get into so narrow a space to do any cleaning. The strips offer very little surface for flying particles to lodge on and may be wiped from underneath.



ANNoyANCES CEASE.

Tilting Barrel

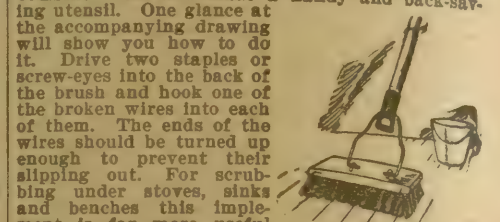
Country folks will find use for this scheme of tilting a barrel. The picture explains the idea which is as follows. Sink two stout posts in the ground and bore a hole about four inches from the top of each. We now reinforce our barrel, if it is a light one, with the blocks "A" and "C" as shown in the cut. Note that those strengthening pieces are both on the outside and inside. If you have a heavy barrel this may be dispensed with. A bolt is then shoved through the hole and the suspended cask may be tilted to pour out its contents very easily. The barrel may contain, water, feed, spraying mixtures, soft soap or anything that it is not pleasant to touch with the hands.



ALL OVER THE FARM.

Scrubbing Brush

It is very probable that you have an old mop handle in which the wires have been rusted and broken and also a scrubbing brush. Why not combine them and make a handy and back-sav-

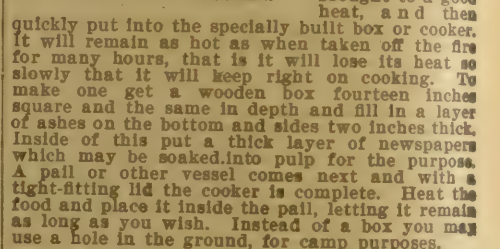


BACK SAVING.

ing utensil. One glance at the accompanying drawing will show you how to do it. Drive two staples or screw-eyes into the back of the brush and hook one of the broken wires into each of them. The ends of the wires should be turned up enough to prevent their slipping out. For scrubbing under stoves, sinks and benches this implement is far more useful than a broom while for high places and corners it has no equal. It may be used as a broom to sweep with and with cloth wrapped around it makes a fine wall wiper. All you need have to obtain one is a little ingenuity and after that, scrubbing on hands and knees should be a thing of the past.

Fireless Cooker

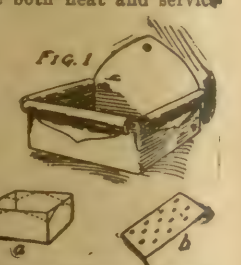
The fireless cooker has come to be one of the modern necessities. In the country, where wood and coal must be relied on for fuel, it finds its greatest field for doing good. The principle and use of the so-called fireless cooker may be thus briefly stated. It is a receptacle constructed in such a way as to retard the escape of heat from its interior or the entrance of cold from the outside. The article to be cooked is placed on the fire and brought to a good heat, and then quickly put into the specially built box or cooker. It will remain as hot as when taken off the fire for many hours, that is it will lose its heat so slowly that it will keep right on cooking. To make one get a wooden box fourteen inches square and the same in depth and fill in a layer of ashes on the bottom and sides two inches thick. Inside of this put a thick layer of newspapers which may be soaked into pulp for the purpose. A pall or other vessel comes next and with a tight-fitting lid the cooker is complete. Heat the food and place it inside the pall, letting it remain as long as you wish. Instead of a box you may use a hole in the ground, for camp purposes.



A FUEL-SAVING COOKER.

Soap Box from Tea Can

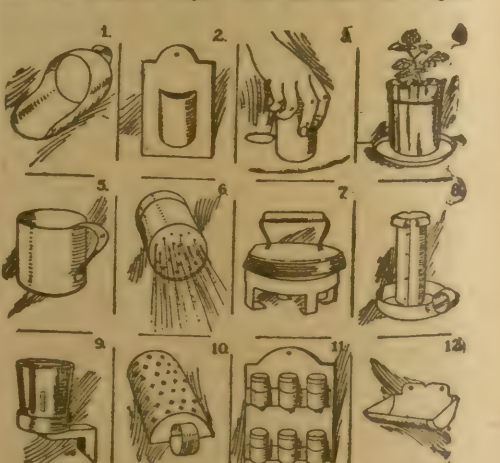
A square tea can may be fashioned into a soap receptacle that will prove both neat and serviceable. Remove the top and with an old pair of shears cut the top of the sides as shown in "a." The roughness of the edges can be rubbed off with a file or a piece of stone. Three sides of the can are now rolled down and arranged uniformly, while the fourth, or rear is left straight. The bottom of the box is punched full of holes as shown in "b." For a finishing touch two coats of white enamel should be used. The design shown may be changed to suit your own taste.



FOR THE KITCHEN SINK.

Articles Made of Tin

The picture shows an even dozen of useful articles which can be made out of tin cans which are numerous around every house and which usually go to waste. The first one is a sugar or meal scoop made by cutting away one end of the can with scissors. The second is a match box, made of a baking powder can sliced in two and the half secured to a flat board. The third, fourth and fifth, are in the order named, biscuit cutter, flower pot, drinking cup. The following three are a sifter, iron holder and candlestick. Number nine is the cover of a can fastened to a wooden bracket, to be used as a tumbler holder. The tenth is a grater much used in by-gone days. The eleventh is a spice



EACH TELLS ITS OWN USE.

cabinet made by fastening small, neat cans to a board with wire and labeling them. The last is a soap dish made of a half can. This list of every-day articles should prove valuable to those who are not very close to a store, and will no doubt suggest to you many other uses for the despised tin can.

Dustpan

Stooping down with the old-fashioned dustpan every time you sweep would in the course of a year figure into quite a bit of unnecessary labor. There are many patent pans on the market but none of them are as easy to acquire as the one we illustrate. Nail a long stick to the end of the dustpan in the manner indicated and you can pick up the sweepings without bending your back. It is by saving a little effort here and there and devoting the time thus obtained to higher pursuits that the modern woman has emancipated herself from the condition of serfdom her sisters of a few decades ago occupied.



NO BENDING OF THE BACK.

The Pretty Girls' Club

Conducted by Katherine Booth

A Perfectly Balanced Figure Means a Graceful Figure

"YOU are as young as your figure," said a well-known beauty doctor to me the other day and I was fain to agree with her. In this day of wonderful cosmetics, every woman can have a pretty face, but

it is the form that gives her away, so to speak. What good does it do you to have a twenty-five-year old face, when your figure is frankly forty-five? "Not a bit," I think I hear you say, and you are as right as right can be.

I have a friend who has a face that one could look at forever, so pink and white is her skin, so red her cheeks and lips, so blue her eyes, and if she could always be seen seated, she would be beyond reproach. But when she walks it is a different question, as her figure is unwieldy and her step bad. The moral is plain, don't spend all your time on your face, let a little of it be devoted to improving your figure.

As there is never a bad matter that cannot be made better, so there is never a poor figure that cannot be vastly improved.

It is not necessary to let the muscles become stiff and diseased. In fact it is against nature.

If we were all to practice balancing and poising exercises, there would not be a woman in the world with an ungraceful carriage or a stiff neck. Quite a sweeping statement but I believe what I say.

Now I am going to give you a few balancing exercises and only hope they will do you as much good as they did me. I'll guarantee if you will practice some of these exercises every day for a few moments, that every muscle in your body will become—and stay—pliable.

I wonder if you realize what this means? You don't? Then I will tell you because the news is too good to keep. Pliable muscles mean, dear beauty patient, that you will always—just think of that!—have a perfect carriage and a perfect form! Isn't that something to rejoice over?

Balancing Exercise, No. 1

Throw open wide the windows of your room, then assume a physical standing position—I won't particularize, as I have frequently told you what it is—and breathe way down to the tips of your toes. Holding breath, cross the right foot over the left and rest its tip lightly on the floor. The right arm is now crooked over head and the left hand is placed upon the chest. "An easy exercise," did you say? I am glad you think so but am afraid you may have reason to change your mind when you try it.

After you have assumed the position described above and illustrated in Figure 1, I will ask you to hold same for as long as possible, swaying the torso gently from right to left, meanwhile steadily inhaling and exhaling.

When you have practiced this exercise for ten minutes, it would be best to stop, else the muscles of the body will become over fatigued.

What good will this exercise do you? It will give you an assured carriage and supple muscles. Another exercise which is warranted to give one splendid poise, is given below. It looks easy until you try it, and then—well, I mustn't discourage you, so will hold my peace.

Balancing Exercise, No. 2

Assume correct standing position, then inhale deeply and extend arms out at side as shown in Figure 2. Now bend sideways to the right, as far as you can, keeping the knees stiff and the backbone straight. Now sway to the left, then to the right, and continue in this way until you grow tired.

Do not shift your feet, while swaying to and fro, nor the position of your arms, although you will doubtless be tempted to maintain your balance in this manner.

What do you say to the following exercise? It appeals, as a usual rule, to both dames and damsels, as it gives one plenty of excitement. What do I mean? Read on and you will see.

Pumpkin Balancing Exercise, No. 1

Invest in a large, well rounded pumpkin, then place it on top of your head. As pumpkins have an aggravating way when placed on the head, of sliding calmly off, it might be a good idea to fold a square of calico and lay it over your pretty piled-up tresses. Now set the pumpkin down on the cloth and it will "stay put."

Are you ready, Milady? If so, start across the room, walking as rapidly as you can without spilling the pumpkin. Don't practice this exercise more than four minutes at a time, as it is apt to unduly tire the neck muscles.

Every day devote a few minutes to this head balancing exercise and it won't be long before you will move about with a proud, graceful poise of the head and a wonderful grace of muscle and of sinew—in a word, you will walk with the easy grace of a Spanish maid.

I am sure you will like to be given another pumpkin exercise, as they are great fun, so will gratify you.

Pumpkin Balancing Exercise, No. 2

The seeker after pliant muscles and a graceful body lifts a pumpkin as high as she can in the air, then she rises on tiptoe and runs hither and thither, up and down, around and around the room. When out of breath, pause, and still standing on tiptoe, lower pumpkin until it almost touches the floor, then raise it aloft, then lower it again and so forth.

Before I close I will tell you about my pencil exercise. It is unique and I know you will like it.

Stand erect with heels together, toes out and knees straight. Now put the palms of the hands together, and holding a pencil between the middle fingers, raise your hands above head, then bend from the waist—keeping knees straight—and sway to the right side so that when pencil touches floor it will be to your right. Now, still bending swing to the left. You must then rise to your full height, without bending the knees, face around and repeat motion. When through you should be standing in the center of an exact circle.

This exercise makes the body graceful, reduces the waist and develops the arms. Doesn't that sound alluring?

Questions and Answers

A Bishop, Girle, Miss Ann and others.—It is quite an easy matter to make the hands white, smooth and plump. All that is necessary to do is to hold them for ten minutes daily in a bowlful of warm, sweet almond oil. After two or three weeks of this treatment you will find your hands everything they should be. No woman wants to have a bald head, so it is quite natural that you should be somewhat worried over your hair falling out. I suggest that you give the scalp a gentle massage every night, just before slipping into bed, with the following pomade. It is not particularly pleasant to use, as it makes the hair greasy, but it gives such splendid results that you should be willing to overlook its one drawback.

Hair Ointment

White vaseline, three ounces; Castor oil (cold drawn), one and one half ounces; gallic acid, one and three quarter drams; oil of lavender, thirty drops. If you were troubled with oily hair I would give you a tonic, but since your hair is so dry that it snaps off at the slightest provocation, I am compelled to recommend the pomade, as it is evident that your scalp is sadly in need of oil.

Melamora, Illinois, Dorothy S., Miss Margaret and others.—Is this the formula you referred to?

Epsom Salt and Lemon Reduction Treatment

Dissolve one pound of epsom salts in one quart of rain-water. Shave fine three bars of white soap and dissolve in one quart of boiling rain-water. When partially cool, pour in the epsom salt solution. Now add two more quarts of water and it is ready for use.

At night rub the preparation on such parts of the body as you wish to reduce, and let it dry in. When morning comes, wash it off. Continue the use of the fat reducer until the desired results are obtained. In addition to this wash, take the juice of half a lemon in a cup of hot water, three quarters of an hour before breakfast. The average reduction in weight is two pounds every week.

Bandaging a too full bosom tightly would, in time, reduce its volume. You must be careful, however, not to draw the bandage so close that you feel uncomfortable.

Della, Anxious Miss.—I would not advise you to disturb the moles, as when meddled with they are very likely to leave cancerous growths.

Lotion for Oily Hair

A. S. Dak., Girl, Prairie Flower, Bess B., Mrs. T. T. T. and others.—Since your hair is too oily for beauty, moisten the scalp with this lotion, every night for three weeks, then every third night for four weeks, after which discontinue treatment.

Salicylic acid, one part; glycerine, two parts; alcohol, seventy parts; water distilled, thirty parts. If you do as I recommend, I think your hair will eventually become delightfully fluffy. And now let me see what I can do for your shiny face. It won't do to let you go out among your friends with a shining skin, so I must e'en pin on my thinking cap and see what I can discover in the way of a beauty aid for an oily skin. What do you say to spraying the face five or six times each day with a good astringent lotion? This is a common-sense way of banishing unpardonable oil, and is but very little trouble. After dampening the face thoroughly with this lotion, let it dry on. I am giving below astringent lotion. I do hope you will enjoy using it.

Alum, eighty grains; rose-water, six ounces; almond milk (thick), one and one half ounces.

Mrs. J. W. D., Skinny, Mortified Gus; Papa's Girl, Texas Maid, Miss W. and others.—You need not worry over being thin, since you live on a farm and can secure as much pure sweet milk as you want. Anyone who will drink plentifully of milk will not remain thin very long. I suggest that you try this way of becoming plump. If you are agreeable to this, make a point of drinking three quarts of creamy milk daily. The average gain in firm, healthy flesh will be two pounds weekly. I almost forgot to say that milk is a marvelous food developer. Try this diet and you will see that I have not overrated it.

Pimples are generally caused by too great a fondness for sweets. If you wish the ugly blotches to disappear, and of course you do, you must taboo candy, pie, cake, pudding, fried foods, hot breads and greasy meat. I also advise taking plenty of outdoor exercise, sleeping with your bedroom windows opened wide and making a habit of the daily bath. In addition, it would be a good plan to touch the pimples several times daily with the following lotion:

Pimple Lotion

Precipitate of sulphur, one dram; tincture of camphor, one dram; rose-water, four ounces. Even after the pimples have disappeared, it would be the best of ideas to continue fighting shy of rich foods.

Blackheads are a great trial but daily treatment will finally banish them. Never forget to wash your face at night before retiring with hot, soapy water, frictioning the skin with a rough cloth. After this



BALANCING EXERCISE, FIG. 2.

rub in a little boracic powder and if this smart the skin, massage in cold cream. Every other night scrub blackheads with a soft, soapy nail brush, after bathing the face and before the boracic powder is rubbed in. Scrub very lightly else the skin will be irritated. Once a week, after the face has been washed, steam it over a basin of boiling water, then rinse in hot water and spread over face a handful of soap jelly. After ten minutes wash this off and massage for several minutes. On this night omit the boracic powder.

Soap Jelly

Pare one cake of Castile soap into three cups of water to which has been added one teaspoonful of powdered borax. Boil until mixture jellies. Put in covered glass jar and use as wanted.

Indeed, I agree with you that rheumatism is a great affliction. Before I took the milk diet, I had it the time, but now I never have even the slightest twinge. If you will use the following bleach, after you have gotten rid of the ugly blackheads and pimples, I think your skin will lose its sallow tints:

Almond Meal Complexion Bleach

Buy a fifty-cent jar of theatrical cream and a pound of almond meal. Beat together one teaspoonful of the

cream and some almond meal and add enough hot water to form a spreadable paste. Cut two squares of thin cheese-cloth big enough to cover the face and tear a hole in the center of each square for your nose, as I don't want you to smother. Now dampen the squares and spread the paste between. Bathe the face in hot, soapy water, massage for a minute and then apply the pack, patting it down so it touches the face all over. Now lay on two medium-sized, hot, wet Turkish towels and as soon as they cool replace with others. Keep this up for fifteen minutes, then remove pack, wash face in warm, then cool, then very cold water. Two of these applications weekly will bleach the skin beautifully and make it soft and like satin.

You must not attempt to contract pores until your skin is free from blackheads, as it would be the height of folly to close up the pores before they are rid of their poisonous contents. When you can honestly say that the blackheads are no more, start contracting the enlarged pores. This is done by dampening the face, five or six times daily, with the astringent given a South Dakota Girl.

Mrs. M. D.—You might ask for aromatic vinegar. To prevent mistakes, tell the druggist that you wish to apply it to the face.

Mrs. C. D. B., Elderly, Old Maid, Disheartened, Expectant, Lois and others.—The elastic band should help brace up the cheek muscles, I would suggest the use of warm sweet almond oil instead of the olive oil as the latter is apt to coarsen the facial skin and yellow it.

Every morning, before donning your dress, you should bathe throat and cheeks for ten minutes in a strong astringent and every night, just before going to bed, you should dip a folded strip of cotton cloth into this selfsame astringent and passing it under the chin, pin the two ends of the bandage together at the top of the head. This bandage should be removed every five minutes and saturated anew with the astringent. After throat has been treated in this manner for a full hour, put on your elastic band and hie you off to bed. Here is the formula for a good astringent liquid.

Throw a lump of alum—the size of two peas—into two cups of ice-cold water.

A movement which is credited with filling out the neck beneath the chin, is given below. Practice it twice daily for ten minutes for the next three months and results will be all you could ask.

Tighten throat muscles, then drop chin on chest and revolve head until it rests on right shoulder. Chin should now be stretched up and out as far as it can go, while the head is moved slowly across the back until chin rests on left shoulder. Head is now slowly moved toward the right until chin is once more in its original position.

As I want to be thorough I will also give you an exercise which, if practiced for five minutes three times a day, is said to give one rounded cheeks. Not at once, of course, but after it has been practiced daily for several months.

Development Exercise for Hollow Cheeks

Open mouth widely, then tighten cheek muscles and bring lips together in thin cord or taut.

In addition to using the astringent, I would advise deluging face and throat frequently with cold water, or, better still, running a chunk of ice slowly over face and neck. If you wish to massage cheeks and under-neck chin, you should use an astringent cream. This is just the thing for the woman with a wrinkled face and sagging cheeks and chin. If you wish the formula for this wrinkle cream, let me know and I will gladly print it, as I know personally of cases where its constant use has banished wrinkles and firm a flabby skin.

Rose, Farmeress, Doubtful Jen and others.—If you wish to reduce the hips and upper part of legs, practice the following for ten minutes, twice a day.

Stand erect, then raise knees high in the air. Now kick feet out sideways, with decided vigor. Do this first with one foot, then with the other. Please read my reply to Mrs. J. W. D.

Kathryn E.—Carbolic acid undiluted would remove freckles, no doubt, but it would also scar the skin. Do not use it, is my advice.

Apple Blossom, Vanity, City Girl and others.—What a pretty nose de plume you chose. It makes me think of spring and country meadows. I am giving you the formula for which you asked.

Greaseless Skin Food.

Corn flour, one and one half drams; water, ten ounces; glycerine, five drams.

With a little water make the flour into a paste; slowly stir in the rest. Bring to a boil; when cool add the glycerine.

Sister Sue, Troubled Sallie, Inquisitive and others.—You were quite right to think that something was wrong when your hair commenced to gray. Girls of your age are supposed to have gray tresses. You must immediately begin massaging scalp for twenty minutes nightly, with the following tonic:

Quinine Tonic

Sulphate of quinine, twenty grains; tincture of cantharides (alcoholic), two drams; extract of jaborandi, two drams; deodorized alcohol, two drams; glycerine, one ounce; bay-rum, six ounces; elder-flower water sufficient to make a pint.

Perhaps it has not occurred to you that your state of health may have much to do with your pretty auburn hair turning gray. Women who are run down nearly always have something the matter with their hair. My advice to you is to drink lots of fresh water and eat abundantly of fresh eggs—not fried—broiled beefsteak, lamb chops, mutton chops, chicken and fish, also baked, boiled or roasted potatoes, and fresh vegetables. You might also, if you are really in earnest in this fight for a pretty head of hair, drink a quart or two of creamy milk every day.

Broken-hearted Wife.—Do as your mother says. You are wasting your life and your mother is right in urging you. Don't hesitate any longer, even if there is a family secret. Don't let it stop you. This is my advice. If you want a personal letter, give me your mother's address and I will address you there.

Troubled Girl.—I think you are old enough to wear your hair done up. I think pale pink or blue would be most becoming to you.

Miss A. E.—Thank you for the pimple formula. Since you recommend it so highly, I will take pleasure in giving it to my readers. You are too thin. Your lips should be thirty-eight, your bust thirty-six. Your waist could be an inch smaller. Why not try to plump up? Drinking milk will develop your bust and fatten you generally.

Address all letters containing questions to KATHERINE BOOTH, care COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Things the Modern Farmer Must Know

Questions and Answers

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

SORGHUM HAY.—Is sorghum hay poisonous to stock when it is cut and cured like clover or Timothy hay? Also is it poisonous to stock to graze on sorghum pasture while it is green? ANNA COLLINS, Ohio.

A.—This feed is apt to prove poisonous when for any reason it has been wilted and has died while growing, or if severely checked in growth, by drought or wet, and again grown green. There is not thought to be any danger from feeding well-cured, fully grown sorghum, and green sorghum can also be fed to help out when pastures are bare. It is the second growth sorghum, whether consumed green or dry that is poisonous, and the poison is said to be prussic acid. As the crop does not produce a very heavy tonnage to the acre it is better to seed to corn in districts where that plant thrives well.

FERTILIZER FOR CELERY.—I would like to know the best fertilizer for celery.

Mrs. J. C. F., Hambleton, W. Va. A.—Celery does best in a cool, moist atmosphere and on rich vegetable deposits on level bottom lands. Short stable manure well worked into finely pulverized soil does fairly well as manure; but if the land is not rich an artificial fertilizer should be used. Here are two suitable formulas: Nitrate of soda, 300 pounds; fish scrap, 300 pounds; acid phosphate, 600 pounds; nitrate of potash, 300 pounds. 2. Nitrate of soda, 300 pounds; dried blood, 300 pounds; acid phosphate, 600 pounds; muriate of potash, 300 pounds. The amount of mixture to be used depends upon the comparative richness of the soil and should be decided by experiment. About 500 pounds to the acre should give good results.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 39.)



MRS. SELBY AND HER PRIZE BABY

Redondo Beach, Calif.—Mrs. G. A. Selby says: "I have always used Cuticura Soap and no other for my baby and he has never had a sore of any kind. He does not even chafe as most babies do. I feel sure that it is all owing to Cuticura Soap, for he is fine and healthy, and when five months old, won a prize in a baby contest. It makes my heart ache to go into so many homes and see a sweet-faced baby with the whole top of its head a solid mass of scurf, caused by poor soap. I always recommend Cuticura, and nine times out of ten, the next time I see the mother she says, 'Oh! I am so glad you told me of Cuticura.'"

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Talks with Girls

Conducted by Cousin Marion

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

NOW are the wintry winds of March, which though it is called the first month of spring is about as unlike spring as can be, except to those cousins who live very far south of COMFORT's home. Still we can stand the winds and the cold ever so much better knowing that it ends the real winter instead of starting it. Wouldn't it be something awful, girls, if March were the last month of autumn? November is bad enough, but it is lovely compared with most of the Marches I know. But spring will soon be with us and I must get to work right away, or I sure will be having spring fever and you all know nobody wants to work when she has that.

The first letter on the pile before me is from Worried Girl, Trenton, N. J., and what worries her is that an Italian bartender seven years older than she is, she being twenty-two, wants to marry her and her parents threaten to disown her if she takes him and he makes only fourteen dollars a week and she doesn't know whether she loves him or not, but cares more for him than she ever did for anybody. If he marries her his people haven't room in their house for them, and her people won't have him in the house. She is an American and his ways are not like her ways, either. Now, cousins, what would you say to her? I'm going to tell her not to marry him. Is that right? Sure it is, because getting married under too many difficulties is much worse than never marrying at all.

Five Girls, Eads, Colo.—My, my, all of you want to get married and do not know whether you ought to or not. Well, suppose you wait a year or so and devote your spare time to a study of the momentous question. Have a meeting once a month and discuss it among yourselves.

Brown Eyes, Capron, Okla.—You know I am opposed, my dear, to kissing promiscuously, but I think in your case it will not do much harm to kiss your sweetheart good night, once a week, even if you are not yet engaged. Oh, once a week, though, and good night. Remember that.

Mamie, Merrill, Miss.—You know some town girls think it is perfectly awful to go with country boys because they haven't city ways and are so frightfully green, but if you know a nice country boy, you choose him, no matter if your teacher, who is a Merrill girl, says she wouldn't go with country boys. Of course, there is a lot of difference between country manners and the manners of a city like Merrill that has a depot, two stores and a post-office, but you needn't care about that.

Rachel, Mexico, N. Y.—A week's acquaintance is rather short to become engaged on, but maybe this will turn out all right. By all means reply to the letters from his parents welcoming you as their daughter, even if you have never met them. I should think your reply would have followed by next mail. If you don't want your friends to know of your engagement, don't wear the ring till you are ready for them to hear the news. Of course, attend parties with your cousin as you have been doing and be as friendly with your old friends as you have always been. If your fiancé objects to your associating with your kind, now is the time to break the engagement. Marrying is not going into a sunny land and you are not expected to lose all your friends because you have found a husband. Have all these matters adjusted without trouble, before it is too late. Both of you be sensible and you will have my blessing.

Sleepyhead, Pontotoc, Texas.—Stop thinking about the boys and put your mind on your books and then you won't be a sleepyhead, nor an empty-head, either.

Mistletoe, Brockton, Mass.—When two young people fall to understand each other and things go wrong, the best way is for them to ask each other the kind of questions you ask me. You two are the ones to settle it, and no outsiders.

Puzzled, Malden, W. Va.—When in doubt which of the two to choose, choose neither. Wait a year. And whatever you do, don't marry to please anybody except yourself. Much better not marry at all.

Blue Eyes, St. Clairsville, O.—Beware of the young man who writes to you from Kansas, or anywhere, and asks you not to let your mother see his letters. He is not the right kind. It was all right to send a box of your own make of candy to your "gentleman friend," but don't call him your gentleman friend.

Gray Eyes, Joliet, Ill.—Well, if you "cannot love no one else but him," notwithstanding his neglect of you, I suppose you should marry him and see how much more he could neglect you as husband than as sweetheart. Some kinds of silliness won't be cured any other way.

Brown Eyes, S. Charleston, O.—As long as the young fellow doesn't care what stories the girls tell and is just the same to you, you have no cause to worry, so stop it, as he says for you to do. You will become a worrying wife, if you don't, and they are the very worst.

Henry's Choice, Triplett, Mo.—Don't bother about that little kiss. I don't think it did much harm. Anyway, not enough to worry about. Henry seems to be all right and as you both are in love with each other, you should marry. But don't be imagining that he doesn't love you and that he is only fooling and all those spooky things. Take him at his word, and don't be foolish about him. As the same time don't let him fool you, as I feel quite sure he never thinks of doing. Yes, tell him, when you write, what the cousin told you.

Subscriber, Colfax, Wash.—My dear, I only attend to heart troubles. Go to your local doctor about your feet troubles.

Daisy, Glenwood, N. M.—You have a difficult problem to solve, and I hardly know what to tell you to do. If he is dishonest, himself, I think you should give him up, but if it is only his brothers who are dishonest, I think I would let him and trust to the future to get him away from his present surroundings. He has made a home for you and you mean so much to him that it does seem a pity to spoil it all because of the short-comings of his brothers.

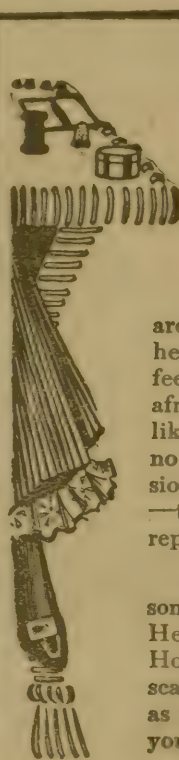
Brown Eyes, Blairville, Ga.—The poet says, "Time at last sets all things even," and as you do not appear to be foolishly in love with this young man who has some "wicked ways," I think if you will wait the three years you told him you would, you will see your way clear to do what is best to be done. I am glad to know you are not the "kissy kind." More girls ought to be like you.

Ignorant Girl, Atlanta, Ga.—Goodness me, it is bad enough when a girl uses bad grammar and bad spelling and bad punctuation and capitalizing in her own handwriting, but when she typewrites it, as you do, and gets them all in, it is forty times worse. Now you let the beams alone until you know more about spelling and grammar.

Brown Eyes, Cabot, Pa.—Nice young man, he is, who thinks because it is leap year, that he shouldn't be as polite to you as he was in other years. You tell him if he wants to go with you he must forget that it is leap year.

Anxious, La Crosse, Wis.—If his mother is your father's cousin, that doesn't make you too near to marry, but I should think you would rather go out of the family to get a husband. Still, it isn't any of my affair, I suppose.

Faithful, Billings, Mont.—You must make due allow-



Father's Little Helpers Mother's Little Joys



are Beecham's Pills. They bring happiness and health to all. You may know what a miserable feeling it is to suffer from indigestion—to be afraid of eating—unable to take what you would like for fear of after-effects—to possess little or no appetite—to suffer from "wind" and occasional pains near the heart (caused by flatulence)—to be troubled with an unpleasant sense of repletion after only a moderate repast?

Are you upset in these ways and are you sometimes Constipated—Liverish—Bilious—Headachy—or colloquially "A bit off-color?" How often do you feel that, although you can scarcely say you are ill, you are far from being as well as you would like—as well in fact, as you know you ought to be?

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Taken as directed, these famous pills are always efficacious. The healthiest person is the better for a little medicine from time to time and you will find an occasional dose of Beecham's Pills the best tonic-aperient for general use. In fact, they will prove

Helpful To All

The special directions with every box are very valuable to women wishing to be and to appear their best.

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ance for your mother's old country notions and teach her the newer and better way, if the young man is all right and the very kind for you to have as a friend. Sometimes parents need such training. Ordinarily when a girl is though school she is supposed to be old enough to "keep company with a young man." But age doesn't always make a girl sensible.

Two Girls, Belton, S. C.—Don't worry. The course of true love never did run smooth, and there is no reason why it should in your affairs. Girls of sixteen are always more silly than sensible and by and by you'll know ever so much more than you do now and won't be half as happy.

Worried Annie, Everett, Wash.—As you are twenty-one years of age and have five hundred dollars in the bank, and he is twenty-six and has three thousand dollars and a nice little house and lot for you, besides being the right sort for a good husband I don't believe if I were you I would wait very long for parental consent. Run along and marry him, and your parents will be asking to come and stop with you, before the year is out.

Dark Eyes, Ferndale, Cal.—My dear, don't let that eleven years' difference in your ages stand in the way of what I think will prove a very happy marriage. When the older woman and the younger man marry for love it nearly always turns out to be the happiest kind of marriage. You have my blessing.

Just Someone, Salina, Kans.—I think you are too particular about men, though, I'm sorry to say, most girls are. The other way, and you must not expect too much, any more than that you should be satisfied with too little. I think both you and "O" are growing indifferent and if you let him off gently I don't think either of your hearts will break. "H" may not be all you think you should find in the man you marry, but he is enough and you will make no mistake to marry him, if you will be sensible and make the most of his good qualities, trusting to remedy the others by leaving his conduct to his own honor.

Perplexed, Muskegon, Mich.—The love that means respect is more nearly "true love," than the love that is called "passionate." One lives always, the other dies soon.

Worried, McLeansboro, Ill.—It isn't an engagement until the man asks you to marry him. Your young man may be a beginner in love affairs and think it is enough to tell you he loves you and will treasure your love always, but that is not enough. He must ask you to marry him before there is a real engagement.

Rosa, Thayer, Kans.—When a young man is all devotion for a while and then falls away, it is a pretty good sign that he won't be much hurt if the girl gets somebody to take his place. As this young man is that kind, suppose you try to find one that will last longer.

Ignorant Girl, Newark, S. Dak.—I don't see how young men such as you describe can be "liked well by all who know them," unless Newark standards of young men are exceedingly low. What I would call a nice girl would have nothing to do with them whatever, if they are both like the one you tell me most about. Talk to your father or brother about it.

Violet May, Blackfoot, Idaho.—Unless you are very much in love with him and are prepared to undergo many sacrifices as his wife, I advise you to listen to your parents and give him up. Marrying a poor man with his mother and family to support makes it mighty hard on the wife.

Elizabeth, Paxton, Neb.—I think the young man is "joshing" you, and you are old enough to "josh" him in return and pay no more attention to the soft things he says to you. You are older than he is and ought to be able to show him that you are not as foolish as he thinks you are.

Southern Girl, Charleston, S. C.—When a girl of your age has the "blues" over a young fellow who doesn't care enough for her to keep his engagements with her, an excellent cure for it is to wait till she is older and has more good, common sense.

Two Girls, Duncan, Okla.—Isn't it perfectly dreadful to be in love when you are so young that you don't know whether it is crop or measles? But don't cry, little girls, you'll get over it, by and by.

Gypsy, Goodlettsville, Tenn.—I am very glad my advice came in such good time and place and I wish you all the happiness that comes to married people, when

you and he are all ready to marry and have your own home.

Hopeful Seventeen, Trent, Md.—If you are so dissatisfied at home, why don't you take a course of typewriting and stenography and prepare yourself to make your own living? Many girls do that and there is always room for first-class typewriters and stenographers. Especially girls, for the average girl is not first-class. Don't marry for a support as long as you can make your own. Too many girls do that. (2) It was polite of you to write the note of regret.

There, dears, all your questions have been answered and I have scolded some, but I am not sorry I have though I am sorry that there was occasion to do so. However, the spring is coming and maybe we will all take a new growth and be sweet and lovely like the flowers. Let us hope so, and the good Lord help us to be better. Now run along and play. By, by. COUSIN MARION.

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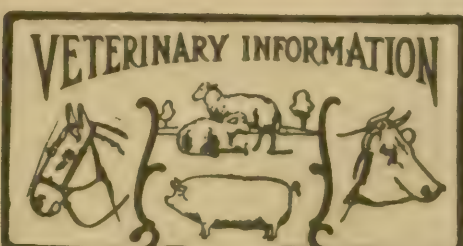
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VETERINARY INFORMATION

Subscribers are invited to write to this department asking for any information desired relative to the treatment of animal troubles. Questions will be answered in these columns free by an eminent veterinarian. Describe the trouble fully, sign full name and give your address; direct all correspondence to the Veterinary Department, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any question privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing as above.

CHOLERA.—I had fifteen hogs and all got sick and died but two. They never have seemed to be sick before. Some of them would die within a day or two and a few lingered as long as six weeks. They would slowly quit eating, and lie around, and sometimes their bowels would move. Then a few of them got real poor with loose bowels at times, but would eat real good until the last few days. Those that got poor and died seemed to die hard, and took them a long time to die. Could it have been cholera? Can they have cholera without having very loose bowels? We fed them very carefully all the time, giving them weeds, alfalfa, clean water and corn short, and this year's corn. I had them in a large, sanitary pen and gave them the best care, keeping everything very clean. In this part of the country hogs are dying all around us. Could germs have come in air and got to ours, or what seemed to be the trouble? I gave them coal oil, turpentine, and raw flour, browned flour, and shut one by itself and gave it nothing but cooked food, and some alfalfa hay, and three drops of carbolic acid in feed. She would eat heartily, and go three or four days without passage of bowels, and then it would be thin, and she would be weak, and she would eat heartily and go back to work again. Then one day she refused to eat, and died. The food wouldn't digest. What could I have done for her? Have another one the same way. Can't account for our loss, because we gave them such good care. Is coal tar good for mange in hogs? Also had one skinned and cooked it for the dog. Did it kill the germs and could I have fed it to the chickens with good results? Would the eating of eggs make sick?

SKIN TROUBLE.—I have a mare five years old that has a skin disease. It made its appearance last summer, showing first on the belly and inner sides of the legs and later on the shoulders, neck and head. She would bite and rub herself and the hair came out leaving bald spots, but no sores. I tried different remedies but without satisfactory results. Finally I greased her with axle grease which for a time stopped the itching, and the hair grew in nicely, but lately the trouble has returned, mostly on the shoulders and withers, but some on the neck. The skin on these parts is scurfy and peels off dry scales. She also passes small, white worms. She raised a foal last summer, and kept in good flesh. Her hide is loose and her hair looks good on the back, hips and sides where she was not affected with the disease, and she seems to feel fine. I feed coarse ground corn, wheat, bran and prairie hay. I have worked her very little. The disease doesn't seem to be contagious. D. W. C.

INDIGESTION.—I have a heifer calf, eight months old in good condition. Seems to feel good and eat heartily. Has plenty of wild hay and oat straw, and is in a warm stable at night. When standing she switches her tail and kicks at her stomach with her hind feet and strikes back with her front feet.

QUITTOR.—Can you tell me what will cure my horse. Her hind foot above the hoof is swollen and seems to be stiff. It makes her very lame. Can you tell me what to do to cure her, and what is the cause of it?

TUBERCULIN TEST.—Can we test our own cattle at home for tuberculosis, and if so how is it done? Will our test stand for a state inspection? J. M. O.

ARTHRITIS.—I have a calf four months old that has a sore with hair in its legs. Was all right when born and didn't get swelling until about two months old. Is very hardy and eats good. Can stand up some, and still sucks the cow. Have tried everything I thought would help, but nothing has so far. Can you tell me what to do, and what has caused it? Have treated it for rheumatism. Mrs. E. A. A.

PILES.—My September pig is bothered with piles at least that is what I think it is. The rectum protrudes. There are fifty in the bunch, and they are red ear corn, and middlings in warm water. They have access to an eight acre blue grass pasture at all times and clinders from the railroad. For a while I put the hot water over the middlings in the morning for the night feed, but have quit it as I thought that caused the trouble. D.

MALODOROUS MILK.—Our cow had her calf in November and it died. She seems in perfect health. Her bag is not fevered, eats heartily of alfalfa, corn chop, barley and bran. She has a good-sized lot to run in, a warm barn to sleep in, and plenty of water all the time. Barn and lot clean. Her milk has a sickening smell, also the butter has the same. We are compelled to stop using milk till we hear from you, "through COMFORT." What are the signs of a tubercular? Mrs. P. M.

THIN HORSE.—I have a mare fifteen years old, that

eat all right, but stays poor and continues to fall off. She had something like a chill about two years ago. At that time she would jump up after trotting like she could not hardly walk. She walks slowly, carries her head low sometimes. I want to get her fat, but cannot. I think she is troubled with worms. Her appearance is dull, works all right. She urinates almost every time I touch her with a whip.

THURSH.—I have a mare that has a hole in her two front hoofs. Some say it is thrush, I keep them cleaned out, and fill with pine tar. What is the thrush? If gravel gets in them she goes lame. What can be done for it? (2) The second mare lost a nine months colt last year, and a large lump came on each side just in front and below the flank. It is rupture, and would it interfere with foaling again? J. E.

GASOT.—We have a cow, quite old, that has something wrong with her bag. She had a calf that she lost about two months ago. She gave milk the same as she always did. Two weeks ago we found that one of the pigs was sucking as she would give no milk in morning. Two days ago when we went to milk one of the teats was stringy, and that side of bag was caked hard, and we got very little milk from other teats, and in the morning we could get no milk, and the bag appears to be caked. S. E. E.

SCRATCHES; WARTS.—My brother has a horse eleven years old with scratches on his hind feet. They are sore when you touch them, and his legs stock up when he stands in the barn for a few days, but is all right when you take him out for exercise. Feed oats two quarts three times a day, and have been putting axle grease on. He eats heartily. Can you give me a cure for them? (2) We also have a cow with warts. Can you give a cure? E. J.

SKIN TROUBLE.—I have a mare five years old that has a skin disease. It made its appearance last summer, showing first on the belly and inner sides of the legs and later on the shoulders, neck and head. She would bite and rub herself and the hair came out leaving bald spots, but no sores. I tried different remedies but without satisfactory results. Finally I greased her with axle grease which for a time stopped the itching, and the hair grew in nicely, but lately the trouble has returned, mostly on the shoulders and withers, but some on the neck. The skin on these parts is scurfy and peels off dry scales. She also passes small, white worms. She raised a foal last summer, and kept in good flesh. Her hide is loose and her hair looks good on the back, hips and sides where she was not affected with the disease, and she seems to feel fine. I feed coarse ground corn, wheat, bran and prairie hay. I have worked her very little. The disease doesn't seem to be contagious. D. W. C.

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RUBY'S REWARD

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

nearly a week. She had been taken from the court-house directly to her former boarding-place in the city, whither Ruby had insisted upon accompanying her, and where she had been unrelenting in her attentions, and as gentle and kind as if her sister-in-law had never done her the slightest injury.

"Of course I have forgiven you already, Estelle," Ruby answered quickly. "I will confess, though, that I felt forlorn enough when I found that you were in league with Edmund Carpenter, and determined to make me marry him—I longed for Robert more than ever, for I was so alone and friendless."

"Poor child!" returned Mrs. Gordon, weeping. "I have been false enough to my trust. You have shown yourself far more of a woman than I ever did since our troubles began, and you have shamed me by your patience and self-sacrifice from the first. But I will try to lead a different life after this, and to make myself worthy of your love."

Ruby stooped and kissed the repentant woman on her lips, thus putting an end to further self-declaration.

"I have always loved you dearly, Estelle, until this barrier began to grow up between us, and I hope, now that it is removed, we shall be dearer than ever to each other. But—I want you to hurry and get well as soon as possible. Do you think you will be able to get out by next Monday? Madame Howland insists that we shall be her guests for a little while." Ruby concluded, with a blush, for she knew that madam had planned this visit so that Walter and she might see more of each other than they could otherwise do.

Madam had wanted to take her directly home with her as soon as the trial was concluded; for her heart had gone out to the lovely girl from the moment of her introduction to her. But Ruby, seeing how ill Mrs. Gordon was felt that her duty was, for the present, with her, and she had answered:

"Estelle needs me, and I must not leave her until she gets well; even then she will have no one to care for her and it is so dreadful to feel that one is all alone in the world."

She could not forget her own recent sense of desolation, and her tender heart prompted her to throw what sympathy and care she could around the lonely woman, in spite of the injury which she had done her.

"It seems to me she is not over and above deserving of such self-sacrifice," madam had replied; "she has not shown any very great sense of her duty to you in the past."

"Well, but she was Robert's wife; she loved her, and for his sake I will stay with her while she is sick; while, truly, Estelle used to be very good to me in the old days," Ruby pleaded, in extenuation of the offender.

"Yes," thought madam, "when everything was smooth and pleasant, when there was nothing to cross her and goodness required no effort."

But she had too much respect for the young girl's noble decision to say more than, only she meant to have her just as soon as possible.

She rode to town every day to see her, and finally, to hasten matters, insisted that they should both come to her as soon as Mrs. Gordon was able to be moved, and Ruby, feeling that the change would be the best thing for her sister, immediately proposed it upon the departure of her new friend.

"Yes, I shall be able," Mrs. Gordon answered, brightening at once; "my illness has been caused more by mental distress than anything else, but now that you have assured me that you really forgive me, and I shall not lose you altogether, as I feared I might, I shall soon be well. But, Ruby, do you mean to teach again this fall?"

"No, Estelle," and the fair face was crimson now; "I am to go to Redville for a little while, after our visit at Madame Howland's, where I am to have a real rest. Then madam insists that I shall return to her, to remain until—while I am having my sewing done."

"Ah! I understand; you have been arranging for a wedding," said Mrs. Gordon, smiling at her confusion.

"Yes," Ruby confessed, more freely, now that the ice was broken; "madam says there is no reason why Walter should delay making a home for himself, and she wants him to be settled. Besides, she says she would like a place to visit occasionally for a change."

"Then you are not to live with her, nor she with you?"

"No; Walter wants her to come to us, but she says she has lived so long by herself, she prefers to keep up her own establishment, though she assures us that she will come to see us often enough, and stay long enough to prevent our forgetting that we have a grandmother," Ruby concluded, smiling.

"Where are you going to live, Ruby?"

Ruby laughed outright at this question.

"I don't know, Estelle. Walter says I am not to trouble my head about that, since I shall have enough else to occupy my attention during the next few weeks."

"I suppose he will be considered a very rich man now, with his legacy from Mr. Carpenter, and his expectations from Madame Howland?"

"Yes, I suppose so," the young girl answered, with a strangely grave look.

"I am very glad, Ruby, darling," said her sister, heartily, "and I hope you will enjoy your wealth and position; you deserve to. I am sure, for you have borne poverty like an angel."

"I hope, Estelle, that poverty has taught me to be more considerate of the poor than I used to be, and Walter and I both intend to do all the good that we can with his fortune. There is only one sting in it all."

"What is that, dear?" questioned Mrs. Gordon, searching the sweet, drooping face earnestly.

"That I must go to him empty handed."

Her sister smiled.

"Bless you, dear child!" she said, while tears welled up into her eyes; "you are far more precious, 'empty handed,' than half the Philadelphia belles, with their great fortunes."

But Ruby Gordon was not destined to go to her lover empty handed, as we shall see.

She and Mrs. Gordon, who seemed thoroughly changed, spent a couple of delightful weeks with Madame Howland, and then both went to Redville, for another month.

The marriage had been set for the twenty-fourth of October, and Mr. Ruggles had insisted upon giving Ruby a grand wedding.

"You are like another daughter to me," he said to her tenderly, one day, when the matter was being discussed, "and I want you to grant me a father's privilege in this. Mother and I are going down to take possession of our new house in the city, the first of September, and you shall be married from your old home, if—if you think you would like it."

"Oh, Mr. Ruggles!" cried Ruby, quick tears starting to her eyes, "that is so kind of you. I should like it of all things; and—if—Robert were only here," she added, in a choking voice, "it would almost seem as if I were really going to be at home again."

And so it was arranged, much to the satisfaction of all parties, and Mr. Ruggles, taking Mrs. Gordon aside for a confidential conference, remarked:

"If we're going to have this wedding in our new house, I want everything done up handsome, and I guess you know how to manage such things better'n mother and I do; so if you'll just take charge of the affair, it'll be a relief to us, though I'll take care of the ways and means. Invite who you choose, and spend as much money as you like, and—don't you let that blessed girl wait for a single thing."

The commission, together with the carte blanche, just suited Mrs. Gordon, and she entered into the arrangements with all her heart; and between them all, Ruby was almost overwhelmed with kindness and beautiful gifts.

Her trousseau was as lovely and complete as the affection of kind friends and the lavish ex-

penditure of money could make it, although she protested that it ought not to be so, since she had no fortune of her own.

"I am only a poor girl. I haven't a penny of my own," she said one evening, to Walter, "but one would think, to see all the finery up-stairs, that I ought to be a millionaire at least."

And he, bending to touch her forehead with his lips, said, with a queer little smile:

"You underestimate yourself, my darling—you do not know how much you are worth."

Florence and Annie Partridge, who, of all Ruby's former friends, had proved most faithful during her adversity, were chosen to be bridesmaids, and when at length the all important day arrived, Mr. Ruggles' new residence and Ruby's old home was once more ablaze from attic to basement, and most exquisitely decorated in honor of the fair bride-elect.

It was very home-like and beautiful. Nothing had been disturbed in the house, the conservatory had been refilled with choice plants, and it almost seemed to Ruby as if the past year had been but a sad dream; but with the exception of a dear presence, which had once helped to brighten those lofty and elegant rooms, there was nothing wanting.

The young bride was very lovely in her ivory satin robe, with its beautiful lace overdress, and the misty veil, fastened with real orange blossoms, while the pretty bridesmaids were scarcely less attractive in white silk and tulle.

The wedding was a brilliant affair, and nothing occurred to mar the occasion in any way.

Madame Howland was so far recovered from her injuries that she was able to appear without her arm in a sling, although it was still lame and weak, and she looked very handsome and distinguished in her elegant black velvet, point lace and diamonds, while she appeared exceedingly proud of her noble grandson and very fond of the fair lady of his choice.

The young couple were united in the sacred bonds by Ruby's old pastor, who, knowing much of her heroism during her recent troubles, made the service tenderly impressive, and congratulated Walter most heartily afterward, for having won so rare a prize.

The ceremony and reception had been set early in the evening, as the bride and groom had arranged for a little tour before settling down to the real business and enjoyment of life, and were to leave the city on one of the night trains.

But when the guests had departed and Ruby had exchanged her wedding dress for the traveling suit, Mr. Ruggles drew them into the library for a few last words.

He seemed deeply agitated, and laying his hand tenderly upon the lovely bride's head, he said, in a husky tone:

"My dear child, ever since I have known you, I have been happier than I ever expected to be again in this world after losing my own dear daughter, and want to tell you that, henceforth, all that I have or gain will belong to you. But," he added, with a pathetic attempt to smile, "for his eyes were full of tears and his lips trembling, 'before you went away, I wanted to give you a daughter's portion and a father's blessing, so take this, tuck it away somewhere where it'll be safe, and God bless you both!'"

He bent and touched Ruby's forehead with his unsteady lips, shook hands with Walter, and then left the room abruptly, after having slipped a package into the young wife's hands.

"Dear old man, how good he is! But what is this?" Ruby asked, looking from the package up into her husband's face.

"Let us examine it," he said, eagerly, for he had known something of Mr. Ruggles' intentions.

Ruby unfolded the paper and began to read.

"Oh, dear," she cried, laughing, "is it one of those puzzling legal documents such as Robert used to have, and I never could make them out. Take it, Walter, and explain it if you can."

Walter smiled, and gathered the slight figure of his wife close in his arms.

"I can explain it, darling, without the document," he said, "for Mr. Ruggles confided his plans to me some time ago. You know, dear, that our old friend has become immensely wealthy during the last few years."

"Yes, I know."

"I do not need to tell you, either, how fond of you he and his wife have both become; you reign supreme in their honest hearts; and, last month, Mr. Ruggles made his will bequeathing everything, save one hundred thousand dollars, which goes to endow a certain college in this state—to you, if you survive both him and his wife. But that has nothing to do with the document he has just given you; that is simply a deed of this estate, conveying to Mrs. Ruby Richardson and heirs forever this beautiful home and all that it contains."

Ruby looked amazed.

"Simply a deed of this estate," she repeated, breathlessly. "What a gift! But I thought that they were going to live here?"

"No, that was only a kindly plan so that you might be married in your old home. Mr. Ruggles bought the place, intending from the first that you should eventually have it; but I doubt if they would ever be content to break up the home where they have spent so many years of their lives. Poor child, I do feel so very much burdened with this gift!" Walter concluded, smiling down upon her blank face.

"I can hardly realize it," Ruby said, yet glancing fondly around the familiar, beautiful room.

"It has been made very secure, nothing can ever take it from you; and, with a mischievous smile, 'surely, you are not 'empty handed' now.'"

"Oh! Walter! I'm afraid that was a little foolish of me," Ruby said, flushing, yet, after all, with a secret sense of satisfaction at the fact.

"But," she continued, "what are you and I going to do all alone in this great house? I thought—"

"Yes, I know; you have thought that a home was being prepared for you elsewhere. But I had been told of this, and I was sure you would be happier here than anywhere else; and though I own, 'tis rather spacious for us alone, yet I imagine we shall find friends enough who will be glad to help us fill it."

"But, Walter, it is going to take a great deal of money to keep up such an establishment," said Ruby, gravely.

"Little wifemaker!" laughed the happy husband, "your experience in ——— Street has made you very calculating; but, my darling, we are going to have a great deal of money, and we can afford to do about as we like. One thing I am sure you will like, and that is to know that Mrs. Coxon is coming to be housekeeper for us; you know she once said, she would like to come to live with us."

"Oh, that is very good of you, Walter," Ruby delightedly exclaimed. "I have been wondering where the woman would find a comfortable home, and I am sure she will like to be here. But," with a little sigh, "all this is very unexpected, and it rather shatters some bright dreams that I have had about a little home, with only one servant, where I was to do so many things for you with my own hands."

"These dear hands will find plenty to do for me as it is," Walter answered, kissing them softly. "For I intend to be a very busy man. I have no intention of giving up my business, so I shall make you my almoner to the poor, when I cannot attend to such things myself."

"That will be very pleasant work, and I know one can do ever so much good with plenty of money. And now, Walter, looking up at him with a sweet seriousness, that made her very lovely, "let us resolve, on this most important day of our lives, that we will set apart a certain portion of all that we have and dedicate it to the work of helping the poor and making other people happy."

"With all my heart," he answered, tenderly. "Shall it be a tenth or a fifth? You shall decide that question some other time. Just now, however, I have to remind you, Mrs. Richardson, that our train leaves in just half an hour, and we must be on the wing; but my bright, beautiful wife, my heart is full of joy at the thought that

I am to bring you back here, to a home so worthy of you, and where you are so well fitted to reign."

What more can we add, but to say that in the years that came and went, these two faithfully kept the resolution made on their wedding day.

The memory of the trials of his early life kept Walter's heart green and tender, and he never turned away from a cry of distress or withheld his bounty wherever there was a call to do good, while Ruby's brief experience of poverty and care made her a sweet and gentle sympathizer with all who were in trouble, and many a home was brightened by her benevolence, many a despairing heart was comforted by her deeds of mercy and love.

Mrs. Gordon proved to be completely changed by that trying experience, which had so nearly resulted in the exposure of her treachery, and disgrace to the name she bore. She was softened and subdued; her pride conquered; her affections quickened. And when, three years later, her hand was sought and won by a noble and devoted clergyman, she was well fitted for the position she was to occupy. "Estelle will make a lovely minister's wife," Ruby declared; and she did, although she always affirmed that if there was any good in her, it was all owing to the living example of her beautiful sister.

Madame Howland lived to an advanced age—lived to welcome and love three noble boys and two sweet little girls—her great grandchildren, and the pride of her heart; and, during the last few years of her life, she was content to give up her own home and reside with Walter and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruggles were frequent visitors in that delightful home, where they were always most cordially received, and which they declared was the most charming spot this side of heaven; and when they were finally gathered to their rest—Mrs. Ruggles first and her husband but a few months later—all their great wealth came into Ruby's possession, bequeathed to her by her friend, with his "best love and gratitude for all her kindness to a rough old man."

She could not help feeling that she had reaped a wonderful reward—that it was all the outgrowth of that one simple act of courtesy and good will on that evening, when this uncultured stranger had entered, an unbidden guest, her brother's house, to offer homage to the poet who had sounded the depths of his really noble nature by the might of his gifted pen.

THE END.

This Great Book Free

In this issue of COMFORT we print the last installment of "Ruby's Reward." Back numbers of COMFORT cannot be supplied. If you have read the story you will likely read it again, so we provide a splendid edition in colored paper binding, suitable for your library or reading table. If you have not followed the story in COMFORT, send only one new 15-cents 25-cent subscription to COMFORT (your own won't count) and receive "Ruby's Reward" post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

GIDEONS BUY 25,000 BIBLES—The biggest order for Bibles since the Gideons began a campaign to place copies in the hotel bedrooms of the country, reached the headquarters of the commercial travelers' association. Los Angeles and adjacent towns want 25,000 Bibles. This is the result of a canvass carried forward by the secretary of the "Gideons," following the placing of Bibles in the bedrooms of Chicago hotels. Religious interests in charge of the campaign in California plan a parade through the main streets of Los Angeles, in which 5,000 men, each carrying five "Gideon" Bibles, will march. Six thousand Bibles were distributed in Chicago on Dec. 31, 1910, at a cost of \$2,100.

WALLS THAT HELP FURNISH THE HOME

It is a mistake to think that spreading patterns and gay garlands strewn over the walls help in the furnishing. Plain walls are to be seen in the most artistic homes today, soft neutralizing tints, each room harmonizing with the other.

Plain walls distinguish a room, make all its appointments, pictures, ornaments, curtains and furniture look best.

The choice of soft, distinctive colors is unlimited with alabaster walls and this water color tinting is not only very easy to apply but entirely sanitary and durable. It is an alabaster powder and needs simply to be mixed with cold water without waiting or mulling and put on the walls with a brush. It remains firm and is always exquisite in tints though far more economical than wall paper and wears and looks much better than paint. Charming stencil designs can be had for little or no cost for alabaster walls.

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Anna Waino
Are You Sincere

Oh, You Kid
Beautiful Eyes
I Remember You
Little Tattle Tale
Sweetheart Days
Sweetheart
When I Marry You
I Wish I Had a Girl
The Sweetest Girl
Shine On Harvest Moon
Bird on Nellie's Hat
Games of Childhood Days
Nobody Knows Nobody Cares
Waiting at the Church
You're a Grand Old Flag
I Could Love a Million Girls
Dance of the Prairie Mary

The Stars, the Stripes and You
Because I'm Married Now
He's a Cowboy of Mine
Varden House Boy
Captain Baby Bunting
My Dream of the U. S. A.
A Man, a Maid, a Moon, a Road
Love Me and the World is Mine
Honey Bring Dreams of You
Take Me Out to the Ball Game
I'm Afraid So Comedienne in the Dark
Geo, Out There is a Lonesome Town
By the Light of the Silvery Moon
Puttin' on the Old Gray Sueset
Back to Back Mother Who Do You
I've Got Rings on My Fingers (How
How Do You Do Miss Jonesboro
gets all the above

I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now
Lonesome Way Bound in the Sweetest Way
Will You Love Me True (Home)
I'm Hoping for the Night of the 14th
I Want Someone to Call Me Sweetie
You're Mine, You're Mine, You're Mine
I'm Tying the Leaves So They Won't Come
Down
I'll Be Waiting in the Evening, Sweet
Gentle
Let Me Know What I Never Dared to Tell
When You Know You're Not Forgotten by
The Girl You Can't Forget
Is There Any Room in Heaven for a Little
Girl Like Me
Sweetest Love a Little Girl Like Me
Sweetest Love a Little Girl Like Me

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Peculiar After Effects of Grip This Year.

Leaves Kidneys In Weakened Condition.

Doctors in all parts of the country have been kept busy with the epidemic of grip which has visited so many homes. The symptoms of grip this year are very distressing and leave the system in a run down condition, particularly the kidneys which seem to suffer most, as every victim complains of lame back and urinary troubles which should not be neglected, as these danger signals often lead to more serious sickness, such as dreaded Bright's Disease. Local druggists report a large sale on Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root which so many people say soon heals and strengthens the kidneys after an attack of grip. Swamp-Root is a great kidney, liver and bladder remedy, and being an herbal compound, has a gentle healing effect on the kidneys, which is almost immediately noticed by those who try it. Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., offer to send a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, free by mail, to every sufferer who requests it. A trial will convince anyone who may be in need of it. Regular size bottles 50 cts. and \$1.00. For sale at all druggists. Be sure to mention COMFORT.

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years, 4640 years,

FREE SEND NO MONEY

This splendid camera and complete outfit for just a few minutes of your spare time. Not a toy, but a scientific camera for either snapshots or time exposures. Substantially and beautifully made throughout, fine fm. Morocco leather covered. Special lens with improved shutter. Complete outfit of 1 Eureka Camera, 1 box dry plates; 1 pkg. sensitized paper; 1 pkg. developer; 1 pkg. hypo; 1 ruby paper and book of instructions.

WE TRUST YOU. Just send your name and address. We will send 24 pkgs. of our new style, easy to thread, gold-eye needles and 12 satin finish pure aluminum thimbles, all post paid, with big 16 page premium list showing 50 other handsome premiums. Sell needles at 5c a pkg.; give with each 2 pkgs. a thimble free. Your success is certain. When sold, send us the \$1.20, and the camera and whole outfit is yours.

GLOBE NOVELTY COMPANY
DEPT. 30,
Greenville, Pa.

Free To Girls!

LOCKET AND CHAIN FREE

This beautiful Ladies' Neck Chain and Locket is gold plated, burnished in finish with a long ebbled link chain having a spring catch. The locket is in Roman finish with plenty of room for initials or monogram. It is a genuine hinged locket with two glass-covered dust proof compartments. We are going to give away thousands of these beautiful lockets, and we want you to have one. Send no money. A postal will do. A beautiful sparkling brilliant from ring to those who are prompt, so write at once if you want this Locket, Chain and Ring. **LOCKET & CHAIN CO.**
38 Friend Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

room for initials or monogram. It is a genuine hinged locket with two glass-covered dust proof compartments. We are going to give away thousands of these beautiful lockets, and we want you to have one. Send no money. A postal will do. A beautiful sparkling brilliant from ring to those who are prompt, so write at once if you want this Locket, Chain and Ring. **LOCKET & CHAIN CO.**
38 Friend Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Watch, Ring and Chain FREE

FOR SELLING OUR JEWELRY. This handsome AMERICAN MADE STEEL WIND-UP SET WATCH engraved and properly GUARANTEED FOR 5 YEARS. Also give ring ready for your initials and a watch chain free to boys, girls or anyone selling 54 pieces of our handsome jewelry at 10c each. Send us name and address and we will send jewelry postpaid. When sold send us the \$1.40 and we will send the watch, ring and chain FREE. **HENRY JEWELRY CO. DEPT. 212, CHICAGO**

WILD WILLIE'S WIERD WHISTLE
Loud, shrill, most piercing whistle in all creation. Heard for miles. Great for city or country. Tells farm hands to come. Signals neighbors. Summons help in time of danger. Useful for boys. One blast will make your friends jump a foot in the air. Every man, woman, boy and girl should have one in their pocket. Handle made of wood. 10 cents each. 2 for 25 cents. **W. H. HODGSON'S SONS, 214 East 58th St., New York City**

12 POST CARDS FREE

We will send you 12 of the prettiest post cards you ever saw if you will cut this advertisement out and send it to us with 4c. to pay postage and mailing and say that you will show them to 6 of your friends. **D. J. New Ideas Card Co., 233 S. 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa.**

Fish Bite like hungry wolves and keep you busy. If you use Magic-Fish-Lure. Best bait known for attracting all kinds of fish. Sets, a box. Write for free booklet and my special offer of one box to help introduce it. **J. F. Gregory, Dept. 45, St. Louis, Mo.**

25 NEW EASTER POST CARDS 10c
All Different in Gold and Beautiful Colors. REGAL MFG. CO., Dept. 22, Battle Creek, Mich.

Asthma REMEDY sent to you on FREE TRIAL. If it cures, send \$1.00; if not, don't. Give express office. National Chemical Company, 974 Ohio Ave., Sidney, Ohio

Extra Heavy Silver Plated Spoons
Engraved Handles
Polished Bowls

This new design and pattern in spoons has been called the new COMFORT assortment. Each spoon is EXTRA HEAVY, is full standard length, the bowl is EXTRA DEEP, the embossed and engraved handles are finished with the effective frosted finish now so much preferred, also it greatly enhances the appearance of the embossing. The heavy embossed design, in relief, extends entire length of handle on both sides.

For every-day service and special occasions these Spoon embody every requirement; they will withstand constant use, yet they are so delightfully attractive they will materially dress up any DINING-ROOM TABLE. Each Spoon is made up of a GOOD GRADE METAL and SILVER PLATE is quadruple, the bowl is brightly polished and the handle finished in the rich frosted effect, a combination at once in accord with the very highest priced STERLING SILVER.

You may think you have enough silverware now; even if you have a variety there is always use for more Tea Spoons, especially such very Beautiful Spoons as we now offer you, and COMFORT is such a great monthly, people readily subscribe, so you actually will obtain these Spoons for but a moment's time.

CLUB OFFER
As a special inducement to have you send now for a set of SIX OF THESE SILVER PLATED TEA SPOONS we will send them Free and post-paid for only TWO FIFTEEN-MONTHS subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, or A DOZEN TEA SPOONS for only FOUR MONTHS 25-cent subscribers to COMFORT.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Children's Jolly Hour

With Uncle John

THE windy month of March has arrived so we will have to stay indoors quite a bit and keep pretty close to the stove. That will be just the time to turn over the pages of COMFORT until you come to this Jolly Hour. Here you have recitations that you can learn, games to play, paper dolls to make and many other amusements. You cannot do them all in one hour but by taking up one thing at a time you will manage to get a lot of fun from the page, before the month is over. Then the new issue will come along with another batch of good stuff and pictures showing the Funny Bugs at some of their queer pranks.

Adventures of Paul and Prue

CONTINUED FROM FEBRUARY NUMBER.

"Aha," he squeaked, "I have you at last, and tearing the bedclothes into strips he tied their hands and feet and sat down contented to wait until they woke up. Paul was the first to rouse and when he saw the condition they were both in tears filled his eyes and he began to moan aloud. This woke Prue up and she, too, began to wall. Paul now saw that he had acted like a girl and grew ashamed.

"Be brave, little sister," he shouted, "I had a dream that we would soon be back home with mother and father and I know it will be true."

"I am afraid you will be disappointed, my boy," said the squeaky voice, and looking in surprise and terror they saw the mouse.

"What are you going to do with us?" asked Paul.

"I am going to kill you as you kill my brother and sister mice," came the wicked reply.

"I will tell the owner of this house and he will kill you," put in Prue bravely.

"No man owns this house, it is all mine."

"Then you set up the fine meal of chicken and potatoes and cake that we eat here?"

"I set it up myself."

"How could you and where did you get it?"

"I stole it bit by bit from the homes of people like you and pasted it all together till it looked like as if it were really one piece."

"It would take you a year of hard work to do it."

"It took ten years of hard work and I did it so I would have a trap to catch a little boy and girl like you. Now I have you and you cannot escape. Say your prayers for I am going to get my knife."

With this the giant mouse left and the unhappy pair began to sob and pray aloud. In going out the mouse left the door open and some bees as large as sparrows flew in and began to eat the scraps of food on the table.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH.

Funny Bugs Rob Pincushion

My big sister will certainly get the maddest that she has ever been yet. When she sees what those Buggies have gone and done, They've robbed sister's pincushion, just for fun.

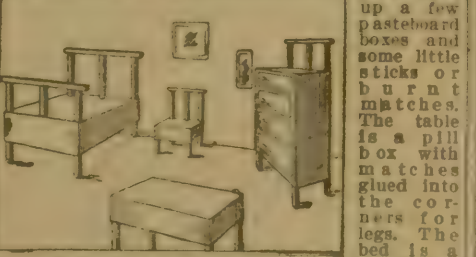


ROBBING THE PINCUSHION.

See one climbing, hand over hand up a thread, if it breaks, the rash fellow will surely fall dead. The two with the thimble, will carry away. All the needles and pins that by chance fall their way. With a comb for a ladder two more will ascend To the top; there won't be a pin left in the end.

Bedroom Set

Here is a cute bedroom all ready for dolly to occupy. You can make the furniture yourself if you save up a few pasteboard boxes and some little sticks or burnt matches.



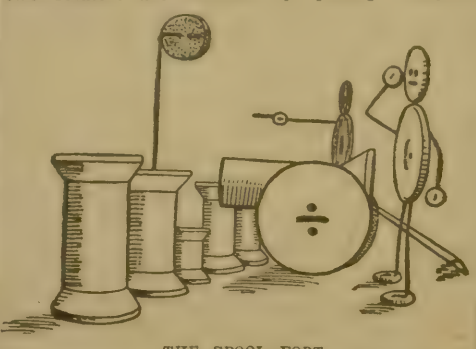
FURNISHED BEDROOM FOR THE DOLL.

matches for legs shoved all the way through and glued or sewed to make them stay. The chair is made in the same way only the box is smaller. The dresser is a box with the open side turned to the wall and the front marked with a pencil to look like drawers. If you are quite a big girl you can make this set yourself but if you

are too small mamma or big sister will make it for you. Uncle John will send a nice postcard to every girl who makes this doll bedroom and tells him about it.

The Button Family

Here is a wartime scene in Buttonville. The defenses for the soldiers to get behind are made of spoons, and the flag is a button stuck on a hairpin, the cannon is a spoon which has one end cut off. The buttons are used to form a carriage or two-wheeled cart for the cannon to rest on. The two soldiers are formed by poking hairpins



THE SPOOL FORT.

through the holes in the buttons and bending them as shown. If you keep this picture close by and look at it as you work you can make Button dolls every bit as nice as the ones that appear in this department. Some little girls can make very good ones and have a whole boxful which they take out and place around in various positions on rainy days when they dare not go out to play.

Shadow Swan

Here is a swan that looks natural if you hold your hands correctly, and stand between the light and the wall. It takes a little experimenting to get just the right distance and angle but the fun had playing the game is great. There is hardly a thing that you cannot imitate if you try hard enough.

Funny Bugs Cut Wood

Oh, funny destroyers of valuable goods, When will you cease, tell me please? You played you were wood cutters out in the woods.

And you used our nice flowers for trees. Now what will we do when we want a bouquet.



THE WOOD CUTTING BEE.

To bring to a friend who is ill. We'll just tell them how you have acted today. And they'll be awful mad, so they will.

Irish Toast

Toast America's golden rod, Toast France's lily fair. Toast bonny Scotland's thistle, And England's rose so rare. They all deserve our praises, And our blessings too, I ween, But give to me the shamrock From the little isle so green.

This array of plans will keep you busily engaged until I make my appearance next month. It will be warmer then and I hope I will not have to wear my overcoat. If I do I will see that the Funny Bugs do not sneak into the pockets. The COMFORT family is so large that when some of them are enjoying nice weather and picking flowers, others are freezing and perhaps throwing snowballs. I will try to make each issue contain something of interest to children, no matter where they are located, and you can help me to accomplish this by telling me what part of the page you enjoy most and why.

UNCLE JOHN.

BOYS and GIRLS

Earn Elegant Watch, Ring & Chain in One Day's Work
SEND NO MONEY. Simply send your name and address and we send you, charged paid by us, 12 Beautiful Pictures, 16 inches wide, 20 inches long, no 2-alike, (stores usually charge \$1.00 each). WITH THEM we send 12 boxes of our famous WHITE CLOVERINE SALVE (very handsome boxes) greatest remedy known for Cuts, Burns, Dandruff, Ulcers, Piles, Eczema, Catarrh, Colds, Etc.



MEN AND WOMEN

EARN \$3.00 DAILY
We offer you steady work
You sell the White Cloverine at 25c per box and give 1 picture free. When sold return \$3 and we send beautiful WATCH, RING & CHAIN, or you can keep CASH COMMISSION. Be first in your town. Everyone buys 2 to 3 boxes after you show pictures. A doctor discovered Cloverine. Millions use it. Agents earn \$3 a day sure. Write quick. We send Cloverine and pictures at once. Address
Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 103, Tyrone, Pa.

Smoke of Herbs Cures Catarrh.

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way and It Costs Nothing to Try.

This preparation of herbs, leaves, flowers and berries (containing no tobacco or habit-forming drugs) is either smoked in an ordinary clean pipe or smoking tube, and by drawing the medicated smoke into the mouth and inhaling into the lungs or sending it out through the nostrils in a perfectly natural way, the worst case of Catarrh can be eradicated.

It is not unpleasant to use, and at the same time it is entirely harmless, and can be used by man, woman or child.

Just as Catarrh is contracted by breathing cold or dust and germ-laden air, just so this balmy antiseptic smoking remedy goes to all the affected parts of the air passages of the head, nose, throat and lungs. It can readily be seen why the ordinary treatments, such as sprays, ointments, salves, liquid or tablet medicines fail—they do not and cannot reach all the affected parts.

If you have catarrh of the nose, throat or lungs, choking, stopped-up feeling, colds, catarrhal headaches; if you are given to hawking and spitting, this simple yet scientific treatment should cure you.

An illustrated book which goes thoroughly into the whole question of the cause, cure and prevention of catarrh will, upon request, be sent you by Dr. J. W. Blosser, 439 Walton street, Atlanta, Ga.

He will, also, mail you five days' free treatment. You will at once see that it is a wonderful remedy, and as it only costs one dollar for the regular treatment, it is within the reach of everyone. It is not necessary to send any money—simply send your name and address and the booklet and free trial package will be mailed you immediately.

AGENTS: You need no money
We will send you prepaid, 1 Dozen GOLDEN OINTMENT a \$1.00 value to sell for 25c. each. Guaranteed to Cure. Return us the money when sold, and you get these two Genuine Gold Filled Rings. Particulars sent with order and how to get a Gold Watch Free. Order at once and you will never regret it. **GOLDEN CHEMICAL CO., Medford, Md., U.S.A.**

FITS EPILEPSY OR FALLING SICKNESS
Why despair, if others have failed; send at once for a treatise and Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. I have made the disease of Fits, Epilepsy or Falling Sickness a life-long study, and warrant my remedy to give immediate and successful relief. I have hundreds of testimonials from those who have been cured. Give express and P. O. address. **W. H. FEEKE, F.W., 4 Cedar St., New York**

SONGS Alexander's Rag Time Band; Star 20 Jolly Grizzly Bear; Stop, Stop, Stop; Let It Alone; Casey Jones; Winter; Cubanola Glide; All that I Ask is Love; Naughty Eyes; Silver Bell; Clever Blossoms; Put On Your Old Gray Bonnet; By the Light of the Silvery Moon; I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now; Next to Your Mother Who Do You Love; I Wish I Had a Girl; When I Marry You; My Pony Boy; Baby Doll; Rainbow; Red Wing; Dreaming, etc. List 500 latest song hits, 10 pieces music, and also a sample of best stage money—the whole lot for only 10 cents, postpaid. Address **WILLIAMS & CO., McKinley Park, Chicago, Ill.**

A Money Proposition
Do you want to own a mail order business—be independent—your own boss? Would you manage an Agency for me in your vicinity? All printed matter furnished for one-half the profits. Write for particulars. **HAZEN A. HORTON, Dept. 212, Tekonsha, Michigan**

A SURPRISE FOR YOU
For a 2c stamp we will send you 6 handsome post cards and explain how you can get 50 others FREE. **O. PAGE, Dept. 3, 156 Quincy Street, CHICAGO**

How to Entertain Book with Riddles, 73 Toasts, 67 Parlor Tricks, 9 Fortune-telling Secrets, 52 Money-Making Secrets, 22 Funny Readings. All 10c Postpaid. **J. C. DORN, 709 So. Dearborn St., Dept. 24, Chicago, Ill.**

ATTENTION, BOY'S—Set of fancy postals of pretty girls; regular eye-openers, 25 cents. **Box 3, Station A, BOSTON.**

POST CARDS five for 2 cents to introduce offer. Chas. Morris, 157 W. Adams St., Chicago

THIS BIG POST CARD ALBUM FREE

DON'T MISS THIS PREMIUM
We show this album as it opens, showing that four cards may be displayed before you on the 2 page, also each leaf accommodates four cards, two front and back; the entire album accommodates fifty cards. You preserve and exhibit cards at same time. The average post-card collector would naturally require three or four of these albums every year, now that post cards are produced in such various reasonable subjects. One could fill an album with all different (travel) mas cards and again with birthday and greeting cards, still another album for travel cards received from friends who are sending at a distance or traveling in this way one can arrange and classify their cards and they will then be preserved in a nice way and when you want to show them to your friends they are presentable in a tastefully arranged manner or exhibition.

ALSO LOTS OF CARDS FREE
To go with ALBUMS. As long as they last you get Cards and ALBUMS and COMFORT at these liberal terms.
Club Offer Send 25 cents for a 15-months subscription to COMFORT, with 5 cents extra, 9 cents in all, for an Album and 15 cards. We give you a lot of cards free with each album so you have an assortment of 15 beautiful cards, comprising all the popular subjects, such as Christmas, New Year's and Santa Claus, embossed in gold floral, birthday and anniversary, greeting cards, scenes of public buildings, bird and landscape cards as well as special Master designs. You will miss a great big opportunity if you let this offer escape you. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.

Say you want to sell the Six Oxien 25-cent Poro Plasters and we will send same day we receive your order. Address THE GIANT OXIE COMPANY, 24 Willow Street, Augusta, Maine.

SPECIAL This month only. Sterling Silver Pencil, 30c. in coin. N. Y. Supply Co., BOX 11, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

MUSIC Our latest two-step, 5c. postpaid. LEO L. PFEIFFER, Music Publisher, COLUMBUS, O.

5 POST CARDS of the better quality for 2c. O. Page, 150 Quincy, Chicago

12 LOVELY POSTALS Performed **SILK FLORAL YOUR NAME IN VELVET, EASTER, &c.** 10c. Postal Art Co., West Haven, Conn.

10 PERFUMED POSTCARDS your name in gold. C. Bloomington Co., Bloomington, Ill.

EARN \$8 ADVERTISING OUR WASHINGTON FLUID, 1c. per line with 100 samples. SEND NO STAMPS and simply list.

INVENTIONS patented free; sold on commission. Fine inventions for sale. ADAM FISHER, ST. LOUIS, MO.

\$2.00 A DAY earned at home writing; send stamp. Address Art College, LAUREL, MD.

Song Poems wanted for publication, with or without music. EATON, Desk D, 1370 Broadway, New York.

32 PHOTOS Art. Address: Bathing Girl, etc., 10c. A. KING CO., Anderson, Ohio.

\$8 PER DAY, collecting names, blanks for 10c. Daniel Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, O.

24 HOT AIR CARDS, "Lots of Fun," 10c. Sun Book Co., Dept. 73, HARRISON, MICH.

FIRELESS COOKING, and What It Means to the Housekeeper, with recipes, 16 pages. Send 5c in stamps to Dept. 23, Box 86, Muskegon, Mich.

Our New Census Business Guide Fastest selling book on earth. Agents making \$10 daily. Write for free outfit. NICHOLS & CO., Dept. C, Naperville, Ill.

25 Assorted High Grade Souvenir Post Cards, Postpaid 10c. Address The S. & D. Co., Dept. 60, Brunswick, Maine.

ELECTRIC House Lighting Plants, Telephones, Dynamos, Lamps, Engines, Railways, Batteries, Belts, Books, Big Cat. 3c. Ohio Electric Works, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

20 "BIG VALUE" Post Cards, Easter, 10c. hand-painted, Gelatine, Beaded, etc. Worth 50c. Catalogue. Helene Mfg. Co., Perth Amboy, N. J.

\$2.00 A DAY addressing envelopes. Send 10c. for trial supply of blanks and samples. Work evenings at home. Wertz Pub. Co., Dept. 21, Cicero, Ill.

AGENTS for Portraits, Frames & Art Novelties. Samples & Catalog FREE. Address N. M. Friedman & Co., Mfrs., Box 515, Martinsburg, Mo.

\$100 MONTHLY and expenses to trustworthy men and women to travel and distribute samples; big manufacturer. Steady work. S. Scheffer, Inc., 8 W., CHICAGO.

I WILL START YOU earning \$4 daily at home in spare time silvering mirrors; no capital; free instructive booklet, giving plans of operation. G. F. Redmond, Dept. AA, Boston, Mass.

\$80 in C. S. A. money sent to any address for \$1. Will give \$50 to any one who can detect it. FRANK O. SHILLING, Navarre, Ohio.

LADIES Make Shields at Home. \$10.00 per 100. Work sent prepaid to reliable women. Particulars for stamped envelope. EUREKA CO., Dept. 21, Kalamazoo, Mich.

AGENTS Wanted to sell the Original Native Herbs. \$1 Box, 250 Tablets, for 60c. For Rheumatism, Liver, Kidney and Stomach trouble. B. MELROSE, COLUMBUS, OHIO.

GOV ERNMENT Positions are easy to get. My free booklet X 1015, tells how. Write today—NOW. EARL HOPKINS, Washington, D. C.

GOLD Shell Spectacles \$1 a Pair. Send for catalog. Agents wanted. Coulter Optical Co., Chicago, Ill.

FITS I have cured cases of 20 years' standing. Trial package free by mail. Dr. S. FRANK, Dept. Park Sta., Chicago, Ill.

TOBACCO FACTORY WANTS SALESMEN. Steady Work and Promotion. Experience unnecessary as we give Complete Instructions. MIDMONT TOBACCO CO., Box 220, Danville, Va.

XRAY Apparently look right through your friends with this little instrument. For complete trial kit. Send 10c. X-RAY MFG. CO., Dept. A 53, Chicago.

ANY NAME Made in 10 minutes. Send 10c. for sample, or we will send Ring as illustrated. A package of Picture Post Cards free with every order. GREELY JEWELRY CO., PORTLAND, ME.

GRAY HAIR RESTORED DUBOIS HAIR RESTORER. Guaranteed to restore gray hair to its natural color. Beauty and Success. Prevents the hair from falling out, cures and prevents dandruff. Will save the scalp. Is superior to the many other hair restorers. Package under one week. From 50c. to \$1.00. Address: GZARK HERB CO., 5915 Easton Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

FINE LOCKET & PEARL NECKLACE BOTH FREE For sending only your gold motto pictures. Turn in 10c each. Do not miss this wonderful offer. Write for pictures today. BARGAIN PREMIUM CO., Dept. 640 Chicago.

Watch, Ring FREE AND CHAIN GUARANTEED 1 YEAR, and this beautiful watch set with new water proof watch you want for \$20.00 of our NEW MOTTO PICTURES. Send 10c. for sample, or we will send Ring as illustrated. A package of Picture Post Cards free with every order. GREELY JEWELRY CO., PORTLAND, ME.

NEW Feather \$8.25 Beds Only \$8.25 For a limited time we offer full 35 lb. New Feather Beds \$8.25 each, 0 lb. New Feather Pillows \$1.50 per pair, f.o.b. factory, cash with order. All new live feathers; best A. C. A. Ticking. Guaranteed as represented or money back. Our references Commercial and Farmers Bank, Melrose N. C. Order to-day and take advantage of these bargain prices, or write for order blanks. Southern Feather and Pillow Co., Dept. U, Melrose, N. C.

Corns Cured ANTISEPTIC MEDICATION. "Fixo" CORN PLASTER—The quick, harmless, medicinal wonder—stops pain instantly—takes out the corn, roots and all, in 24 hours. To prove it send 2c. stamp for full size 10c. package and valuable book—"Care of the Feet." ALL FREE. Do it now.

Schell Mfg. Co., 210 Central Union Bldg., Chicago, Ill. Largest Mfrs. of Foot Specialties in the World.

BEAUTIFUL RIBBONS Five Inches in Width with Soft Wired Edges. The Latest Conception in Hair Ribbons and Artistic Hat Trimmings. Guaranteed All Silk Taffeta.

The edges of this Ribbon are finished to represent a small silk cord through which a soft, pliable wire is run. The most fashionable hats this season are simply trimmed with large stunning bows, and this ribbon enables the home milliner to give her hats that smart touch so difficult with the ordinary ribbons.

For Children's Hair, this Ribbon makes Ideal Bows. The silk will not crush and the bow is instantly adjusted after being flattened under the hat. You have only to send us two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, and we will mail you free two yards of this lovely ribbon. We have delicate pink, light and dark blue, black, white, red and green.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Comfort Sisters' Corner

Comfort Sisters' Recipes and Everyday Helps

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21.)

CHILLI—Three pounds of beef ground in chopper or sausage mill, one teaspoon of colored beans, four heaping tablespoons of Mexican Chilli, pepper and salt to taste. To this add six quarts of water, and boil down to four.

MRS. MOLLIE INGRAM, Perkins, Okla.

HOME-MADE CHEESE—I use a twelve quart pan, as that amount of milk is about right for one rennet tablet (can be purchased at the drug-store). The milk must be perfectly sweet. I use eight quarts of whole milk and four of skimmed. Place the milk after straining on the back of the stove to heat slowly; fresh milk will need very little heating. As soon as it is about eighty degrees, remove from the stove, dissolve one rennet tablet in one third cup of lukewarm water, with one third teaspoon of salt. This should be used as soon as dissolved. Pour quickly into the milk and stir constantly for several minutes, lifting the spoon to see if there are any tiny curds forming in the milk which remains on the edge of the spoon. As soon as the milk on the spoon shows threadlike curds, stop stirring and let the milk set for about five minutes or until the curd begins to settle and shows a little whey on top. Take a silver knife and cut crosswise in half inch cubes. Let the curd stand in the pan until the cubes have sunk. Then lift with a skimmer, a little at a time, to a colander and let the whey run freely, then put in more curd till all curd is in the colander. Let drain for about one hour. With a fork pull the curd apart and sprinkle over it three tablespoons of table salt. Toss lightly with a fork and put into a double cheese-cloth bag, measuring about eight by eighteen inches when sewed up. Shake down the curd gently and sprinkle one teaspoon salt on top before tying the bag to hang. Hang over a pail to drain over night, then hang in a warm room at least ten days. The warmer the place the quicker it will cure.

MRS. E. T. WALKER, Cromwell, Minn.

FUDGE—Two cups of brown sugar, one cup of milk, one tablespoon of butter, and one cup of walnut meats. Cook sugar, butter and milk together until it forms a soft ball in cold water. Remove from fire, add walnuts and stir rapidly until it begins to stiffen, then pour in tin and when partly cold mark into squares. A little vanilla is liked by some.

CREAM PEPPERMINTS—Stir together two cups of granulated sugar, a very little cream of tartar and one half cup of water until sugar is dissolved. Boil until mixture strings from spoon. Remove from fire, add one teaspoon of essence of peppermint and stir until candy looks white. Drop from spoon on waxed paper.—Ed.

Best Ways of Doing Things Around the Home

Cake may be kept fresh a long time by placing an apple in the cake box.

A piece of camphor gum kept in a drawer or box of silver will prevent it from tarnishing. Jewelers use it in their cases.

To remove grease spots, first moisten with soda water, then wash as usual.

Another way to exterminate rats. A farmer took a number of shingles, and on each put a teaspoon of molasses, and on that with his pocket knife spread a small amount of concentrated lye. Then he placed the shingles around under the stable doors and cribs, and in the morning he found forty dead rats, and the rest left the farm.

MISS MARY GRAHAM MARSHALL, Bedford City, B. E. 1, Va.

Granulated sugar and pulverized borax will kill ants. Dry concrete and dry corn meal in equal parts will kill rats and mice. Place some water near the mixture. They won't die on the premises.

MRS. MOLLIE HAYN, Kampsville, Calhoun Co., Ill.

This suggestion may help some mother. Any plain dress or slip may be converted into a creeper by stitching an extra piece of material, ten by six inches to the center back. Attach by means of buttons and buttonholes to center front. The band is adjusted after putting on the dress, which it keeps down over the underclothes and stockings while the baby is enjoying himself on the floor.—Ed.

Run a little meat (any kind), fresh boiled potatoes, stale bread, and onion, and any other kind of vegetable you like through the food chopper; add a bit of sage, salt and pepper and make quite soft with milk. Fry in cakes, or bake in loaf in a hot oven. Try it.—Ed.

Don't Forget to Drop a Line to Mother

SENT IN BY F. FARRY, 310 7th St., Oshkosh, Wis.

So you are going to leave us
For the city gay,
You know my boy, it will grieve us,
But of course you must have your way.

CHORUS:
Don't forget to drop a line to mother,
Don't forget the folks down on the farm,
Don't forget you'll never find another
Who will guard you from all harm.

You never cared for the meadows,
You said that we were slow;
That may be my lad,
But take from your dad a last word, before you go.

Just remember when your friends desert you,
And you don't know what to do,
Don't forget to drop a line to mother,
She's a pal you'll always find is true.

You'll meet some boys in the city,
They'll all be from to you;
You'll meet some girls that are pretty,
And they'll tell you they like you, too.

You'll never think when your happy,
How much we think of you,
But when you are sad and don't weaken my lad,
For I've told you what to do.

Over the Hill to the Poorhouse

BY WILL M. CARLETON.

Over the hill to the poorhouse I'm trudgin' my weary
I, a woman of seventy, and only a trifle gray—
I, who am smart an' chipper, for all the years I've
told.

As many another woman, that's only half as old.
Over the hill to the poorhouse—I can't make it quite
clear!

Over the hill to the poorhouse—it seems so horrid
queer!
Many a step I've taken a-tollin' to and fro,
But this is a sort of journey I never thought to go.

What is the use of heavin' on me a pauper's shame?
Am I lazy or crazy? am I blind or lame?
True, I am not so supple, nor yet so awful stout,
But charity ain't no favor, if one can live without.

I am willin' and anxious an' ready any day,
To work for a decent livin', an' pay my honest way;
For I can earn my victuals, an' more too, I'll be bound,
If anybody only is willin' to have me round.

Once I was young and han'some—I was upon my soul—
Once my cheeks was roses, my eyes as black as coal;
And I can't remember, in them days, of hearin' people
say,

"Taint no use of boastin', or talkin' over free,
But many a house an' home was open then to me;
Many a han'some offer I had from likely men,
And nobody ever hinted that I was a burden then."

And when to John I was married, sure he was good and
smart,
But he and all the neighbors would own I done my
part;

For life was all before me, an' I was young an' strong,
And I worked the best that I could in tryin' to get
along.

And so we worked together; and life was hard but gay,
With now and then a baby, for to cheer us on our way;
Till we had half a dozen, an' all grewed clean an'
neat.

An' went to school like others, an' had enough to eat.
So we worked for the child'n, and raised 'em every-
one;

Worked for 'em summer and winter, just as we ought
to 've done,

Only perhaps we humored 'em, which some good folks
condemn.

But every couple's child'n is a heap the best to them.

Strange how much we think of our blessed little
ones!
I'd have died for my daughters, I'd have died for my
sons;
And God he made that rule of love; but when we're
old and gray,
I've noticed it sometimes somehow falls to work the
other way.

Strange, another thing; when our boys an' girls was
grown,
And when, exceptin' Charley, they'd left us there
alone;
When John he nearer an' nearer come, an' dearer
seemed to be,
The Lord of Hosts he come one day an' took him away
from me.

Still I was bound to struggle, an' never to cringe or
fall—
Still I worked for Charley, for Charley was now my
all;

And Charley was pretty good to me, with scarce a
word or frown,
Till at last he went a courtin', and brought a wife
from town.

She was somewhat dressy, an' hadn't a pleasant
smile—
She was quite conceited, and carried a heap o' style;
But if ever I tried to be friends, I did with her, I
know;

But she was hard and proud, an' I couldn't make it go.

She had an education, an' that was good for her;
But when she twitted me on mine 'twas carryin' things
too fur;

An' I told her once 'fore company (an' it almost made
her sick),
That I never swallowed a grammar, or 'et a 'rithmetic.

So 'twas only a few days before the thing was done—
They was a family of themselves, and I another one;
And a very little cottage for one family will do,
But I have never seen a house that was big enough
for two.

An' I never could speak to suit her, never could please
An' it made me independent, an' then I didn't try;
But I was terribly staggered, an' felt it like a blow,
When Charley turned ag'in me, an' told me I could go.

I went to live with Susan, but Susan's house was
small,
And she was always a-hintin' how snug it was for us

And what with her husband's sisters, and what with
child'n three,
'Twas easy to discover that there wasn't room for me.

An' then I went to Thomas, the oldest son I've got,
For Thomas' buildings 'd cover the half of an acre
lot;

But all the child'n was on me—I couldn't stand
their saucy
And Thomas said I needn't think I was comin' there to
boss.

An' then I wrote to Rebecca,—my girl who lives out
West,
And to Isaac, not far from her—some twenty miles at
best;

And one of 'em said 'twas too warm there, for anyone
so old,
And t'other had an opinion the climate was too cold.

So they have shirked and slighted me, an' shifted me
about—
So they have well-nigh soured me, an' wore my old
heart out;

But still I've borne up pretty well, an' wasn't much
put down,
Till Charley went to the poor-master, an' put me on
the town.

Over the hill to the poorhouse—my child'n dear, good
by!
Many a night I've watched you when only God was
nigh;

And God 'll judge between us; but I will al'ays pray
That you shall never suffer the half I do today.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 35.)

Play the Piano In One Hour

Without Lessons or Knowledge of Music You Can Play the Piano or Organ in One Hour.

Wonderful New System That Even A Child Can Use.

FREE TRIAL



She Doesn't Know One Note From Another, But Plays Like a Music Master.

Impossible, you say? Let us prove it at our expense. We will teach you to play the piano or organ and will not ask one cent until you can play.

A musical genius from Chicago has just invented a wonderful system whereby anyone can learn to play the Piano or Organ in one hour. With this new method you don't have to know one note from another, yet in an hour of practice you can be playing the popular music with all the fingers of both hands and playing it well.

The invention is so simple that even a child can now master music without costly instruction. Anyone can have this new method on a free trial merely by asking. Simply write, saying, "Send me the Easy Form Music Method as announced in COMFORT."

The complete system together with 100 pieces of music will then be sent to you free, all charges prepaid and absolutely not one cent to pay. You keep it seven days to thoroughly prove it. If it is all that is claimed for it, then if you are satisfied, send us \$1.50 and one dollar a month until \$6.50 in all is paid. If you are not delighted with it, send it back in seven days and you will have risked nothing and will be under no obligations to us.

Be sure to state number of white keys on your piano or organ, also post office and express office. Address Easy Method Music Company, 2793 Clarkson Building, Chicago, Ill.

Five Wheel Chairs in February

132 is COMFORT'S Total to Date

Mr. Gannett will Give a Wheel Chair for Easter

Five wheel chairs is one less than we sent out in February a year ago, but I suppose we ought to be satisfied considering the extraordinarily cold and stormy weather of the past month which undoubtedly prevented many from getting out after subscriptions. It is milder weather now and we must all work the harder in March and try to make up for lost time in February.

The following are the five shut-ins who receive the February chairs; the figures which follow their names and addresses indicate the number of subscriptions which each has sent in:

Mrs. Nannie J. Collins, Nevada, Mo., 68; Albert Kidwell, Monroe, Ind., 60; Mollie L. White, Topeka, Kans., 51; Mrs. S. M. Sanders, Tyler, Texas, 50; Miss Mary Harvey, Gainesville, Texas, 44.

Thus you see just what these shut-ins and their friends have done to help; the Wheel-Chair Club has done the rest, in each case furnishing the balance of the two hundred subscriptions necessary to give a wheel chair.

I SHALL GIVE ONE WHEEL CHAIR MYSELF IN March, as an Easter present, besides those that the Club earns. I take pleasure in doing it as my Easter contribution to the relief of suffering humanity.

Now, my good friends, what will you do for the shut-ins this month? What will you do to make the list of wheel chairs that the Club sends to the shut-ins just before Easter as large as possible?

Of course I do not expect anyone to give an entire chair, but I do feel that I may properly urge you, each and all, to do your utmost to get subscriptions for the Wheel-Chair Club this month. Just double up your efforts between now and Easter Sunday and see if we can't double the number of chairs.

The Roll of Honor for the month and the letters of thanks which follow are interesting.

Sincerely yours,
W. H. GANNETT, Publisher of COMFORT.

P. S. For the information of our many new subscribers let me explain that for each and every 200 new 15-month subscriptions to COMFORT sent in either singly or in clubs by persons who direct that they are to be credited to COMFORT'S WHEEL-CHAIR CLUB instead of claiming the premium to which they would be entitled, I give a FIRST-CLASS INVALID WHEEL CHAIR to some worthy, destitute, crippled shut-in and pay the freight, too. It is a large and expensive premium for me to give for that number of subscribers, but I am always glad to do my part a little faster each month than you do yours.

Subscription price is 25 cents, but if sent in clubs of five or more for the Wheel-Chair Club, I accept them at 20 cents each.

COMFORT'S Precious Wheel Chair Enables Her to Get Out into the Open Air and Sunshine Again

OELWEIN, IOWA.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

COMFORT'S precious chair came yesterday, and words cannot express my thoughts or feelings when it arrived. Thank God and you all for giving me an opportunity to get out into the open air and sunshine once more. I also thank Mrs. Anna Kolb for her kind efforts in starting the club for my chair. God bless all the helpers. Gratefully your friend,

MRS. SARAH RUDELSOHN.

Pleasure and Comfort in being Wheeled about and Rested so Nicely in COMFORT Wheel Chair

ADAM, MO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I want to thank you for the beautiful chair that was sent to my husband. Oh! the pleasure and comfort he has had this summer. The chair can be wheeled about with such ease, and he can rest so nicely in it too. He is just delighted with it. What a noble work COMFORT is doing in sending happiness and sunshine to these poor, lonely shut-ins. God bless COMFORT, and everyone who helped get this chair, and God bless Uncle Charlie, Mr. Gannett, and thanks a thousand times. Your grateful friend,

MRS. ANTONIO FRAGO.

Can Get Around the House Nicely in COMFORT'S Wheel Chair

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I received my wheel chair safely, and feel very grateful for it. I can get around the house just fine, and get around the yard next summer. You are doing a good work and may your reward be in proportion to the good accomplished. God bless you, Mr. Gannett, and all of COMFORT'S readers who were kind enough to help me get this chair.

Very gratefully yours, MISS HELEN OTTERBEIN.

COMFORT'S Wheel Chair a Great Comfort to This Boy Who Can't Walk

PHILLIPS, WIS.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

I received my wheel chair yesterday, and words could never express my gratitude to you, and to all those who helped me get it. I am eighteen years old, and cannot walk, so the chair will be a great comfort to me. Again thanking you, Mr. Gannett, and all of COMFORT'S readers who were kind enough to help me get it. Your grateful friend,

OLIVE WEBER.

Such a Blessing to Be Able to Move Herself About in COMFORT'S Wheel Chair After Not Walking for Seven Years

ROCKY COMFORT, MO.

DEAR UNCLE CHARLIE:

My wheel chair arrived safely, and I want to thank you and all my kind friends who helped me to get it. It is a beautiful chair and is a great help and comfort to me. I can wheel myself to the window and all over the house. I have not walked in seven years, and it is such a blessing to be able to move myself around again.

Again thanking you all and may the Lord bless you and all of COMFORT'S readers.

Your most grateful friend,
JAMES E. LESLER.

The Roll of Honor comprises the names of those who have sent five or more subscriptions to credit of the Wheel-Chair Club during the month previous.

Following each name is the number of subscriptions sent.

COMFORT'S Roll of Honor

Mr. Sarah J. Parsons, Md., for own wheel chair, 50; Mrs. O. B. Horton, N. Y., for Pearl Ryder, 50; Mrs. Jennie Putnam, Tex., for Travis Reed, 40; Fred Miller, Ind., for Albert Kidwell, 40; Mrs. Andrew Chapman, Tex., for Byron Chapman, 32; Mrs. R. E. Hurlbut, Wyo., for Mary A. Jones, 30; Edward H. O'bert, N. J., 22; Mrs. M. E. Brady, Kans., for Albert Kidwell, 20; Mrs. S. J. Grear, S. C., for Miss Mitchell, 20; Miss Mattie Vile, Va., for Julia Koser, 20; Mrs. Mary Harvey, Tex., 20; Mrs. Stella Week, Tex., for Daisy Fayer, 20; Mrs. Mattie Sanders, Tex., for Mrs. S. M. Sanders, 20; B. F. Dyke, N. Y., for own wheel chair, 18; Bertha Cuddell, Ala., for Bertha Origgs, 17; R. T. Wooden, Va., for Fannie Ogden, 15; Mrs. M. Mitchell, Cal., for Mrs. M. Mitchell, 13; Corona Harrison, Miss., for Willie Collier

Manners and Looks



"Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners."—Bishop Middleton.

In order to meet the demand for information made by COMFORT subscribers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Ignorance, Pueblo, Colo.—Etiquette does not recognize leap year as having any special privileges, though some people who do not recognize etiquette, give it certain privileges. It would not be proper for you to ask a young man to go to a party with you, unless it were a Leap Year party to which it was understood that the ladies were to take the gentlemen. Neither would it be proper for your sister to propose to her "slow" beau. Can't she find one who knows how to propose without being asked, or told?

Tutti Frutti, Phillips, Wis.—It is quite proper for a girl to brush the hair out of a lady's eye in public if it is only one hair. But if it is more than one she should have brushed her hair properly before appearing in public. (2) The gossips were quite justified in commenting adversely upon the three girls who "spooned" with three young men without a chaperon. (3) There is no cure for a girl who falls desperately in love with every young man she meets except to marry one of them. That will cure her, if anything will.

Perplexed, Lavine, Ga.—Sorry, but we fear we cannot help you to get the kind of wife you want—a pretty brunette with some property. That kind are all taken by the kind of men who don't have to ask anybody to help them. The man who is so hard to please in getting a wife that he has to ask outside help, makes the kind of a husband no woman will have if she has any other chance on earth. Now, brace up, and fall in love with a girl, rich or poor, blonde or brunette, and win her or bust a trying.

Inquisitive, Butte, Mont.—A little stamp photograph sent by a seventeen-year-old girl to a boy of the same age does not signify anything. Ask him if it does. It is proper to write to the boys if your parents do not object, as they should. (2) In asking a young man to a Leap Year party simply ask him, by note, if you may have the pleasure of his company. That is the formal way.

Kismet, Mount Tom, Ill.—Before asking any more questions on etiquette, suppose you devote yourself to your grammar and spelling book until you know how to write a letter. Fifteen-year-old girls need schooling more than they do society.

Two Girls, Iota, La.—When you have finished school you may correspond with young men of the right kind, if there are no parental objections. Exchanges are proper, also, if you have to go along with them. It is much better to have callers at home in the evening than to have them call during business hours. They should not be allowed at all then.

Inquirer, Muskegon, Mich.—If the man speaks to you and is polite when he meets you at social functions and does not recognize you on the street, he either has very bad manners or is near-sighted. Don't notice him when you meet him on the street.

Fuzzled Girls, Lacombe, Oregon.—Why not thank the gentleman who acts refreshingly for you at any place of entertainment? Thank anybody, high or low, for any courtesy that is extended, no matter how slight it may be, but don't make it formal. Merely a pleasant recognition is enough, usually.

Rosamond, Flip, Mo.—In response to compliments either upon yourself or your attire, thank the person paying it and add any other words you please. Quite a popular response in certain circles is: "Oh, quit your kidding," but we do not recommend it as good form. (2) Only in the more serious affairs between young men and women are the presents and letters returned. Never when an ordinary correspondence and association end.

M. M. M., Red Wing, Minn.—Usually at home weddings the formalities are dispensed with and the father may or may not give the bride away as they decide among themselves. At the paragon with no attendants the bride and groom take their places together before the minister. This kind of wedding is almost as informal as one before a justice of the peace. Make your own etiquette for such occasions.

Subscriber, Bowling Green, Ky.—Marry the one you love best and if you cannot get him, don't have any, and particularly don't ever see either of the two any more. You are silly and weak and it will only mean trouble for you and in the end both of them will desert you. They always do, and the girl must carry the burden and the only sympathy she gets from the world is that she should have known better. Maybe you haven't lost all your chances yet, but you sure will if you do not change your course of conduct.

Ignorance, Denton, Ky.—Seeing that the young man whom you are so anxious to meet, and is a stranger in those parts, is a clerk in a store where you are a customer why not make it convenient to have him wait on you and get acquainted in that way? It is much better than presuming on the "store acquaintance," to write to him saying you would like to become acquainted. Since you talk to him in the store when you go there, to write to him would make him think you were too silly and stupid to be worth knowing. Many people become acquainted in country stores, though it is not the custom in city shops, and it is quite correct.

Three Friends, Lawson, Mo.—There is safety in numbers and we think it is preferable for boys and girls to go to places in crowds rather than in couples. (2) Girls of any age should not "keep company" until they are through school. (3) As between kissing good night and playing kissing games one is about as undesirable as the other, and we suggest that both be cut out.

Subscriber, Carey, Ill.—If at parting after first meeting the lady says, "I am glad to have met you," the man may say any pleasant thing he wants to, but the usual answer is: "I am quite as glad to have met you and hope we shall meet again." This is really about as appropriate thing as can be said, but anything else complimentary may be said if you feel like saying it. The thing to do is to say something that doesn't sound as if you had got it out of a book.

C. E. Dixon, Ill.—If the young man comes to see you merely as a caller and does not intimate that he is in love with you, we hardly think it is worth your while to wait for him. If he wants you to wait can't he tell you? And stop kissing him good night. If you do that we think he will not call at all. Try it and see.

Missouri Kid, Dawn, Mo.—Older persons in the country often on being introduced to a minister address him as "Brother," but generally he should be "Mister"—or "Doctor," if he is a D. D. (2) The groom stands at the right side of the bride. Didn't you ever see a wedding?

Friends, Unionport, O.—We think it would be just as good form, nay, better form, if you permitted your brother-in-law to kiss you on the cheek only, even in the presence of his wife. We do not sanction brothers-in-law being too friendly with the younger sisters of their wives. (2) You can make friends and keep them, by thinking of them and their pleasure rather than of yourself and of yours. Selfish people are never popular very long, though they may be till they are found to be working for themselves all the time.

Young Girl, Atlanta, Ga.—When introduced to one person or more you should not hang back like a child or stand stupid like an ignorant. You are old enough to know something to say and you should say it to start the talk going or to keep up with it if going. (2) Some people give presents at Christmas and other times, expecting something in return, and some give just because they love to give. You may do as

you please, and never think that the expensive presents are always the most appreciated.

O. C., Bloomington, Ind.—It is quite as good form if a girl does not go out too often at night. Home should be made the pleasantest place a girl knows. You stay at home, even if your night gadabout friends don't like it. (2) As to the young man you may do as you please about encouraging him to renew the engagement. There is no rule for that sort of thing.

Jayhawker, Larned, Kans.—Seeing that she has told you she does not wish to "keep company" while she is in school, it is now up to you to regard her wishes and see her only at such times as she is free from school and during term time send her a magazine or a book or some little reminder of your existence. Don't do it too often, or be too persistent, but just enough to let her know you are thinking about her. These little attentions will be enough, because if she likes you now she will like you better for being considerate. If she doesn't like you, the more you try to do for her, the less she will like you. Three or four years will not be too long to wait to win the right kind of a girl.

Ignorant, Lula, Ga.—It once was the custom at table when wanting anything to say: "Thank you for the" whatever you wanted, but generally in these days the form is, "May I trouble you for?" "Please pass me the," is almost as much out of use as "Thank you for," but it is often heard at country tables. You may take anything from a dish near you before passing it, or you may wait till others have been served. It is proper to say, "Yes, thank you," or "No, thank you," when anything is offered to you. The lady should lead the way into her own home when coming home with an escort.

Comfort's League of Cousins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

Saturday. I play on an organ. When I take my lesson I take it on a piano at Theresa's. I am four feet five inches tall. I have auburn hair and brown eyes. Hope that Billy the Goat don't get this. Hope to see this letter in print. I wish that you and Billy would here to go strawberrying. We have got lots of flowers. Just now we have thirty-one little chickens; they are all white but one. Good by with love to you and all the cousins.

ESTELLA WAITE.

Estella, you say you play on an organ. Ask your teacher whether you play on an organ or an organ. So you go to Theresa to get your piano lessons eh? That is very considerate of you to go two miles away from home to get your lesson. It is not everyone who would be so thoughtful as that. Most people take their piano lessons right in the house. Of course that makes good sense for the doctor, and increases the national mortality tables, but it is kind of hard on folks generally. Never mind, Estella, go ahead with your music lessons. There is nothing the world needs so much as good music and lots of it. The phonograph has brought a lot of good music into musicless homes, but unfortunately people will always buy jagtime records and popular songs, of which they tire and sicken in a week or two. When you buy phonograph records you should order the overtures to all the standard operas. Of those you will never weary, and they will always be a source of inspiration. Here are some of the overtures that I have and classical pieces, and of which I never grow tired: "Poet and Peasant," "Summer Night's Dream," "The Drummer of The Guard," "Campa," "Rienzi," "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," "William Tell," "Semiramide," "Faust," "Rigoletto," "La Traviata," "The Ride of the Valkyries," "Don Quixote," "The Spring Song," "Schubert's Serenade," "Cavalleria Rusticana." This is the music you want to get into your hearts, souls and homes. Such music is an inspiration. Once you are educated up to it you will have no use for the jagtime dope. Such music refines, exalts and ennobles, and opens up a realm of rapture and delight to all who care to enter. Estella you say you have "auburn hair." That is a new one on me. I should think it must be rather dangerous to wear such inflammable material on your head. You had better go and hide in the coal cellar when the fire insurance inspector comes around, or your folks will never get a policy on their property. How does it feel to wear "auburn hair"? Something like carrying a cigarette around on your coconut is it not? I wish you could send me a few locks of that "auburn hair" just about now, and we could all crawl out of the wood stove and move around without any fear of pneumonia. I suppose Estella, you have to wear an asbestos hat with your "auburn hair" don't you? I should imagine it would be all day with a willow plume, it would soon go up in smoke, if your "auburn hair" touched it. You say you have brown eyes, Estella. I don't wonder that your eyes are brown. I should think they would be well browned, located so close to that inflammable hair. Toby and Billy have been helping me read your letter, and both the dog and the goat think that you mean auburn hair. If that is so, dearie, I wish to humbly beg your pardon. Maybe the dog and the goat are wrong, for I cannot imagine a lady not being able to spell her own hair. Auburn hair is glorious, divine, and I adore it and every-

one who owns it and that means, Estella that I adore you. You say that you wish that Billy the Goat and myself could go "strawburying" with you. What is your idea in burying straw, Estella? I suppose the straw died and you are going to give it a swell funeral. It seems to me that burying straw is rather a wanton waste of material. Possibly, however, you are using it for fertilizer. Perhaps you mean strawberrying. Your letter was written in the summer, Estella. It seems delightful to think of picking berries in a nice garden with the zephyrs fanning your cheeks, and the birds carolling in the tree tops. That beats picking icebergs off your chin whiskers, to a frazzle, and that is what they are doing in this section of the country just now. We accept your invitation, Estella, and you may look for us about mealtime Christmas day.

As you are all interested in poor Lee Mabry you will be glad to know that January 8 he had received nearly two hundred and fifty dollars. The poor fellow was delighted, and oh, so grateful to you all for your kindness. I wrote to the superintendent of the great John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, and told him about the case, and tried to see if I could get a free bed for him. In this, however, I did not succeed. On examination, if an operation is deemed necessary, it will be done free of charge, but he will have to pay ten dollars a week board while in the hospital. It is more than possible, however, that nothing can be done for him, and if so of course he will immediately return home. The superintendent explained that the board was always higher for those who came from states outside of Maryland, the state in which the hospital is located. I had hoped to get the poor fellow a free bed, but have failed. I have not yet, however, given up hopes of getting the board reduced to seven dollars, but in this I may fail also. Hundreds wrote me for his address informing me that it had been omitted, just as though I would be so heartless or so crazy as to devote a large amount of immensely valuable space in an effort to help a poor, sick boy and then omit his address. The address was printed plainly on the top of the letter (the top of a letter is the place for the address not the end) Albemarle, N. C. N. C. strange to say means North Carolina, and does not mean Naturally Careless, Norwegian Cheese or Nut Crackers, but just plain North Carolina. In future, please bear in mind that whatever you see at the beginning of a letter is the full and correct address, and not the name of some new brand of breakfast food. I am living to help people and not to play monkey tricks with them. Have just got word Lee Mabry is to go to the hospital May 15th. It was too risky to take him there until warm weather set in.

Comfort's League of Cousins

The League of Cousins was founded as a means of bringing the scattered members of COMFORT's immense circle of readers into one big, happy family. Its aim is to promote a feeling of kinship and relationship among all readers. It was primarily started as a society for the juvenile members of COMFORT's family, only, but those of more mature years clamored for admittance so persistently that it was deemed advisable to impose no age limit; thus all are eligible to admittance into our League provided they conform to its rules and are animated by the right spirit. Membership is restricted to COMFORT subscribers and costs thirty cents, only five cents more than the regular subscription to COMFORT which is included. The thirty cents makes you a member of the League and gives you an attractive League button and the letter "C. O. C." to a handsome certificate of membership with your name engrossed thereon, and the privilege of having your name in the letter list, also a paid-in-advance subscription to COMFORT. You continue a League member as long as you keep up your subscription to COMFORT. There are no annual dues, so after you have once joined all you have to do to keep in good standing is to keep your subscription to COMFORT paid up. Please observe carefully the following directions which explain exactly

How to become a Member

Send thirty cents to COMFORT's Subscription Department, Augusta, Maine, with your request to be admitted into COMFORT'S LEAGUE OF COUSINS, and you will at once receive the League button and your membership certificate and number you will also receive COMFORT for 15 months if you are a new subscriber; but if you are already a subscriber your subscription will be renewed or extended two full years beyond date of expiration, if you remit 35 cents. Or, if your subscription is already paid in advance, you can take a friend's 15-months subscription at 25 cents and send it in with five cents of your own, thirty cents in all, with your request for membership, and we will send you the button and membership certificate, and send COMFORT for 15 months. League subscriptions do not count in premium clubs.

NEVER apply for membership without enclosing thirty cents to insure a new subscription. The League numbering over forty thousand members, undoubtedly is the greatest society of young people on earth. It costs but thirty cents to join, and that gives you at least a 15-month subscription to COMFORT also, without extra cost. Never in the world's history was so much given for so little. Never could thirty cents be invested to such advantage, and bring such splendid returns. Don't hesitate. Join us at once and induce your friends to do likewise. All those League members who desire a list of the cousins residing in the several states, can secure the same by sending a stamped addressed envelope and five cents in stamps to Nellie Rutherford, 1299 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York, grand secretary.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 35.)

If You are Not a Subscriber

and you receive this paper, it is because you are among the favored few to whom it is sent as a FREE SAMPLE COPY, with the Publisher's compliments, this month only, that you may see for yourself what an excellent all-round family magazine it is, and to give you an opportunity to subscribe in time to receive

Easter COMFORT for April

which will contain an inspiring Easter Sermon by a talented layman, and a smart, pretty Leap Year Love Story of an original type, also some things about the Spring Fashions that every woman wants to know. These are some of its April specialties.

KINDLY READ THIS PAPER. It will interest you, and every member of your family will find something of especial interest in it.

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COMFORT is much more than a mere story paper; each month it also contains a vast amount of instructive and useful information covering a wide range of interesting topics besides seasonable special articles of timely importance.

Its Various Departments

contain a world of valuable information and good, practical advice on the every-day matters of life for the bread-winner, the father, mother, young men, young women, boys, girls and the little tots.

"Manners and Looks" teaches etiquette, "Talks with Girls" gives good advice, "Home Dressmaking Hints" covers fashions and dressmaking, "Sisters' Corner" is our woman's correspondence club, while in the "League of Cousins" the great and only Uncle Charlie amuses, entertains and instructs all, provoking laughter by his wit and bringing tears by his touching pathos.

We believe that no other paper or magazine has so many valuable departments as COMFORT. We have mentioned only a few, and call attention also to our "FAMILY DOCTOR," "HOME LAWYER," "VETERINARY," "POULTRY" and "MODERN FARMER" as important features which you will not find in any other one paper.

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March 1912.

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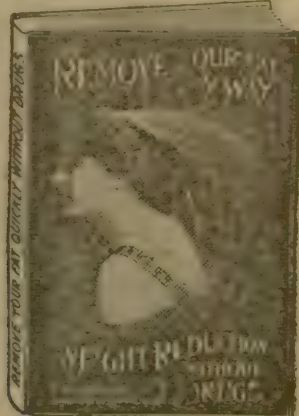
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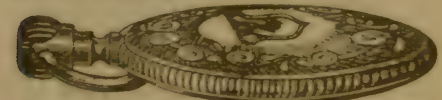
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The Family Doctor

So many inquiries are received from COMFORT subscribers concerning the health of the family that this column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be addressed to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

NOTICE.—As the privileges of this and other departments of COMFORT are for subscribers only, no attention will be given to inquiry which does not bear the writer's correct name and address. Initials only, or a fictitious name, if requested, will appear in the published answer, but the inquiry must invariably be signed by the writer's true name.

Miss R. I. Chelsea, Mass.—Your muddy complexion and pimples are due to blood conditions and the first thing to do is to put yourself on a diet and stop eating fats and sweets and drinking coffee and tea. Eggs, milk, rice, vegetables, lean beef, fowl and fish should constitute your food. Be in the open air as much as you can and let the sun shine on you and practice deep breathing. That will put oxygen into your blood and kill the poison that shows in your complexion and skin. Squeeze out the blackheads as much as possible and keep your skin clean by frequent washing in hot water and pure soap—Castile is good. You may use any simple lotion that your druggist will recommend. If this treatment does not clear your skin, you should consult a physician for other than ordinary causes.

Mrs. A. L. Ogdensburg, N. Y.—We would not advise your taking anything internally to restore the color of your hair. If your friend tells you that she took medicine which restored hers without injury you might try it, but you had better talk to a physician first.

Mrs. J. V. Mt. Pleasant, Mich.—The after effect on children who have had whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever and other diseases common to them is often serious, though as a rule in most cases they outgrow it. You have been trying to save doctor's bills we think by resorting to various cheap "treatments," and we advise that you consult a physician whom you know and get his advice, or the little girl may never get over her cough. Health is the most valuable of human possessions and most humans neglect it more than anything else they have. We do not believe in calling on the doctor too often, but he should be called in for children to give them the health start they should have for their future well being. We don't think the child's parents have had the best physicians in your town, from what you say.

Mrs. L. B. Pontiac, Ill.—When the numerous doctors you have had examine your heart told you that nothing was the matter with it organically, did none of them tell you you had indigestion? I none did all of them should, because that is what is wrong with you. If your digestive organs were working properly there would be no trouble with your stomach and no gas to give you such pains in the heart. Diet yourself on rice, milk, eggs, hard toast, raw cabbage and such vegetables as make no trouble, omitting potatoes, and drink no coffee or tea. Chew every mouthful of food to of food before swallowing it, and eat as little as possible for the first month. Take such exercise every morning as will bring into action the muscles of the stomach, and practice deep breathing of fresh air, doing this whenever you go outdoors. Take three or four deep breaths, through the nose, retaining the air in the lungs as long as you can, and expelling it through the mouth. Morning and night take half a teaspoonful of soda in glass of water, and take half as much half an hour after meals if you have an acid stomach. There are many so-called cures for indigestion, but better than any of them is prevention and you must take care of your stomach to prevent indigestion. Your nervous condition, shortness of breath and heart pains are simply a protest against the bad action of your digestive organs.

Red Rose, Winsboro, Texas.—The intermittent hot flushes are due to nervous trouble, and the nerves are acting badly, we think, because your digestion is not good, though you do not mention that, and, perhaps, do not know that you have indigestion. Suppose you change your diet to a very simple one, omitting tea and coffee and eating less meat and more eggs, rice, and vegetables, other than potatoes. Substitute hard toast for bread, and eat no pastry. Five drops of sodium bromide taken in wine glass of water may have a good effect upon the hot flushes.

T. W. H., Lincoln, Neb.—Possibly you were never intended to weigh more than one hundred and four pounds with your five feet two of height. Some women, you know, are that way. However, you might put on the twenty pounds you want by eating plenty of fats, drinking large quantities of water and using sugar as much as possible. Substitute hard toast for bread, and eat no pastry. Five drops of sodium bromide taken in wine glass of water may have a good effect upon the hot flushes.

X. K., Akron, Ohio.—The hand-books of medicines, dosage, etc., are the U. S. Dispensatory, the Pharmacopoeia, which you can buy of any first-class bookseller, though you will have to pay a good price for them. (2) The X ray is hardly of much value in determining the condition of nerves, mentality and that sort of thing. The ray acts on substances only.

M. J. W., Brockton, Mass.—The best thing you can do for "a pain on the knee" in the case of your boy is to accept the advice of the physician who can and has examined him. Physicians in a city the size of Brockton are about as proficient as any you will find and if one tells you that it will come around all right you should believe him. It will take time and all the doctors on earth can't hurry nature very much. This advice applies to all COMFORT readers who seem to think that the doctors they know are not as competent as those they don't know, and in diseases that are slow of cure, or impossible, they want to try some other doctor. In all serious cases successful treatment may be made only by physicians who can see their patients, personally.

N. K., Milwaukee, Wis.—The peculiar cold feeling which you have in the head at intervals, making the white rings about your eyes, mouth and nose and half paralyzing your senses is due to some nervous disorder which may in turn be due to indigestion. We advise that you go to a hospital in your city when you feel the "spell" coming on and have the physicians there examine you.

P. O., Morris, Minn.—A great many people who find breathing through the nose difficult, or at least through one passage, and think it is due to cold or catarrh are mistaken and medicine will not remedy the trouble. In most cases it is due to what is known as adenoids and an operation is necessary to open the passage, and the operation should be performed at once as the trouble becomes worse with age. An operation is more or less painful, according to the development of the disease, but it is not serious and when the obstruction is removed it will not return. Have an examination as soon as possible.

Subscriber, Fredonia, Wis.—The pains in the chest, head, shoulders and limbs are neuralgia, and neuralgia is a nerve disorder due to different causes. The birth of your child has made your nerves sensitive and they are affected easily by cold, by overwork and varying physical conditions. Many women are affected as you are and the only remedy is not to try to cure yourself, but get the advice and treatment of a physician who can examine you and know what is needed. As your general health is good, you should keep your spirits up and resolve to master your nerves instead of permitting them to master you.

I. M. H., Washington, Kans.—One place in Arizona is about as good as another for catarrh as the climate is very generally dry and warm. Write to Secretary of State, Phoenix, enclosing postage for reply, and state clearly what information you want. If you have money enough to maintain you until you find a suitable place, the best plan is to go there and look around.

Mrs. M. W., Napa, Cal.—Just as your doctors tell you, we say, that there is nothing the matter with you except yourself. You admit your general health is good, and you have never been sickly, yet you have hot flushes and get so nervous when you meet people that you keep away from them now altogether. There is where you make your mistake. You have



Hears Church Bells After Long Deafness

For the first time in years, this good lady, who has been deaf, hears the church bells. She is in ecstasy. Only this morning has she been able to hear the prattle of her grandchildren and the voice of her daughter. Twenty-three years ago she first found herself becoming deaf and, despite numerous remedies, medical advice, hearing devices and specialists' treatments, she found it more and more difficult to hear. Of late years she was harassed by peculiar noises in the head, which added to her misery. At last she was told of a book which explains

how to regain perfect hearing without costly apparatus or drugs. She got this book and learned how to quickly become freed from deafness and head-noises. Observe her delight in this hypothetical illustration! Any reader of COMFORT who desires to obtain one of these books can do so free of cost by merely writing to the author, Dr. George E. Contant, 7 M. Station E, New York, N. Y. He will be pleased to mail it promptly, postpaid, to anyone whose hearing is not good. This offer will bring joy to many homes.

"nerves," and the way to cure that is to make up your mind you will and you will. Instead of keeping away from people go around among them all you can and be as lively among them as you can, even if you must force yourself to be. When your nerves get you down once, they will keep you down, but if you resolve not to be downed, you will conquer in a very short time. A healthy mother with a family of five cheerful children and a good home ought to be ashamed to confess that her nerves are too much for her.

W. H. Y., Baltimore, Md.—More disinfectants should be used about cellars and houses generally than now prevails, and we may say that you can buy from any druggist a better and cheaper disinfectant than you can manufacture yourself. Ingredients will cost you as much or more than the preparation itself, beside the work you have to do in mixing and not doing it right. Buy a pint of carbolic acid and dilute it in as much water as you want to use, at a time. Mark the bottle "Poison," and keep it in a safe place till needed.

E. D., Echo, Ala.—The wheals which come on your body, something like hives but not hives, are a form of urticaria, a nervous derangement due often to an irritation of the stomach. Therefore you have defective digestion if not actual dyspepsia. Urticaria takes other forms, all due to nervous irritation of some kind. In order to secure certain relief from it you must have constitutional treatment to strengthen the digestion, assist the functions of the liver and maintain a healthy action of the alimentary canal. Which means that you must have a physician who can study your symptoms and locate the cause. As a local application for quick relief, use a mixture of eight parts of lime water to one of oxide of zinc. In very simple cases this lotion will be sufficient treatment.

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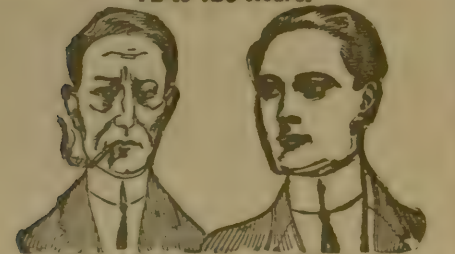


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Sanco's Revenge

By A. W. Peach

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OLD lean Verven whispered it to Sanco as he climbed the dark stairway. Sanco listened and a strange coldness went over him leaving him weak for a moment. All the long day he had been hunting work, hoping to be able to return and tell Maree of his success, for the day was the day of the year on which he had been married. A brief, happy year it had been until the loss of work, then trouble had come fast; now this was the last blow.

Verven watched him a moment, then slid away into his dark room. Sanco stood on the gloomy stairs. Verven had told him that twice that day a fine looking young American fellow had been up in his rooms with Maree. They had been there sometime, and Verven had heard them talking softly together. What did it mean? Sanco recalled that she had been looking tired and worn and worried—there was so little to eat that the ripe beauty of her face was fading, she was getting tired.

Then the quick anger of his nature flooded over the walls of his restraint. She—what had he not done for her? He had given her a home, and it was no fault of his that he had no work. Had he not hunted and begged for it everywhere? Could she not remain true to him when things went a little wrong? He had seen the men on the street, the young Americans follow her with their eyes when he had been out with her—she was beautiful, yes but she was all his and she should remain so. The thought that came quieted him for a moment; he would wait and be sure, perhaps Verven was mistaken; if it was true, then he would see—he would see.

Grasping at this straw that Verven was wrong in his guess—he went to his door and went in. She met him with a glad rush, her lips ready for his kiss, but something in the repressed excitement of her manner chilled the ardor of his answering kiss. Her dark, beautiful eyes were a little too light, her cheeks a little too full of roses. He held her in his arms and looked into her eyes. She looked up into his wonderingly.

"Maree!" he gripped her arms till she cringed. "Has a young American been here, today? Answer!"

Her startled face told him the truth. She looked so beautiful, and to think—"Has he?" Sanco demanded.

Sanco saw that she was hunting for an answer; the knowledge inflamed him; it was all too evident that she was guilty. He turned like a flash to the door as she started to speak, but he heard nothing of her pleading words save the cry of his name.

Down the long tenement stairs he went, heart and brain aflame. Once in the cool night air the heat of his rage cooled into a firm resolve. She was unfaithful; she had not denied the presence of the American. He would get his revenge. Perhaps the young fellow had been meeting her at other places while he had been long away at work when he has been on the long night jobs. All this on the night of the anniversary of his wedding.

He went into Garbo's saloon and sat down in a far corner; for the first time for a long time, he bought a strong drink. He planned the revenge that would be his. He would go back and kill her—that was right and honorable. He would make her confess who the American was; he would find him and kill him next. Then would he be satisfied; then would he have his revenge.

It was another Sanco that left the saloon—a man whose heart was black; under his shirt was tucked a long slim knife whose point could reach a heart though driven by a baby's strength. He would go back late and do the work he was to do silently and without noise. She would be defenseless.

He climbed the dark stairway softly as a wraith. As he paused in front of the door, he put the knife handy. He loved her—ah! yes—he loved her too well to see her unfaithful to him. Then he stiffened into steel; within he heard low voices—hers and a man's! The fellow was there! A wild, unreasoning anger burned throughout his body. He had them both. He swung the door softly inward into the kitchen. The voices were low, but he heard no words that he could distinguish through the roar of the blood in his ears. He crept on movement of slim body, touch of feet, light and still as a panther's. In the little corridor he waited. His throat was dry and feverish; he drew his tongue across his lips. He would wait until one or the other passed through the narrow corridor; it would need just one blow rightly placed and the rest would all be easy.

With muscles tense and poised, he crouched. Time ran on into half hours. There were movements in the other room; footsteps approached the door. Now! Sanco drew every muscle into strong, taut wires. The hand of the man rested on the knob, turned, and the door swung half open. Exposed to view was the slight figure of a fine looking young fellow, having all the appearance of a fairly well-to-do young man of leisure. Sanco stifled the cry of the beast in his heart, and waited until the fellow should take his back from the door and come through.

The young man started—something burst through Sanco's ears—he heard these words: "I am sorry Sanco is not here, but I have stayed as long as I can; you will have to tell him the good news; and if you can't explain just what the work is, I'll see that he knows when he reaches the house. Anyway, Maree, you can celebrate a little tonight with what mother sent over. The job is a good one, and if Sanco was angry, he will get over it when he finds that I was here simply to bring him some good news."

Sanco who had been listening to every word with all the power in him came to a sudden realization that this young fellow was the son of Maree's former employer who had given Maree so many beautiful presents on their wedding day, and who now had come to their aid by bringing him work. And Sanco had been within a moment's time of killing him.

Something in Sanco seemed to break and shatter him through and through. With a cry he threw himself into the room and fell at her feet, begging in his native tongue for her forgiveness. The startled young fellow had stepped aside as

Sanco threw himself in, and he stood staring at him in astonishment. In swift broken sentences, Maree through her tears told him of what Sanco had feared. The young fellow's gay friendly laugh seemed to relieve the situation as sunshine breaks through a dark cloud.

As Sanco stood with Maree in his arms, the other put his hand on his shoulder. "Sanco, you have been a fool—yet I can understand. Be careful—think before the next time. You have the sweetest little wife in the world. Mother has never found a maid like her. When she learned how you were fixed, she sent me over here with this offer of work for you, Sanco; Maree, wishing to sort of celebrate your wedding day, asked me to come and tell you, so I am here. Show up at the house, tomorrow, and you'll be started." He stopped and looked at Sanco a moment, held out his hand and Sanco, with head a little bent, shook it.

When the door had closed softly behind him, Maree drew his face down to hers and kissed him. Sanco's arms drew her tightly against him, for by that kiss he knew that he had won forgiveness.

Current Events

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35.)

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS.—A New York bank took out an insurance policy for \$5,000,000 good for three hours, to cover the risk of "Hold-up or robbery" while a huge quantity of securities were being transferred from the burnt Equitable building to a new location. The insurance company got \$500 for the risk. Companies, especially banks, take no risk and rather pay a half thousand dollars than be without insurance.

PREACHER ACCUSED OF MOONSHINING.—A minister of the Gospel in Tennessee was recently arrested by the federal authorities and held for trial on charge of running a "moonshine" still. The still which the officers claim he operated was in a smokehouse, a quarter of a mile from the church. It is reported that he claims he did not sell his whiskey product but only gave it free to some of his church members, whether for their stomachs' sake or to keep them from going to sleep under his preaching is not stated.

PENNSYLVANIANS, NOTICE.—Pennsylvanians, take notice! Rev. Thomas Clark, a peripatetic preacher of eastern Tennessee whose prophecies have won for him the confidence of the people predicts that during 1912, a volcanic eruption will take place in Pennsylvania, which will plunge 900,000 people into eternity, without warning. He does not name the volcano.

FUGITIVES, NOTICE.—No chance for fugitives from justice hereafter! Four aviators were sworn in as deputy sheriffs in Southern California and helped in rounding up two culprits by scouring the mountain country where land vehicles could not penetrate. More work for the aeroplanes!

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.—By reason of our coastwise navigation laws, 96 per cent. of the Hawaiian freight to and from the United States is carried in vessels flying the stars and stripes. Even before annexation, our commerce with Hawaii was mainly in American vessels. In 1910, 312 of the 437 vessels entering Hawaiian ports were American. If more American vessels were fitted out for European trade, who could doubt that the United States would have the greatest merchant marine in the world and that the commerce would be in her hands!



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Dr. J. E. Cannaday, 654 Park Square, Sedalia, Mo.

References: Third National Bank, Sedalia, Mo. Could you do a better act than to send this notice to some poor sufferer of Eczema?

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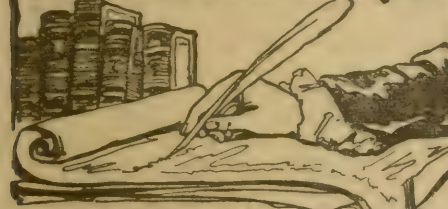


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Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORT'S HOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

S. W. Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that a purchaser of property cannot within three years acquire an easement to cross the land of his neighbor unless there is some conveyance in writing of such easement in the property to him, nor do we think a natural easement would run to him in a case where he had other exits to a thoroughfare across his own property.

Mrs. W. D., Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion: (1) that a married woman cannot bind her husband to pay her debts except such debts are necessary for her support and maintenance; (2) that a will procured or preserved by fraud could not be legally probated, provided, of course, objection was made to the probate and such fraud was substantiated by competent and proper testimony; (3) that a husband cannot be made to support a child of his wife by a former marriage, in the absence of any agreement on his part providing for such support.

Brother, Minnesota.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a married woman leaving no will, and leaving no child, nor descendant of any deceased child, her whole estate would go to her surviving husband.

H. B. T., Oklahoma.—We do not think a woman can be penalized in any way for omitting her middle name at the time of her marriage, or any other time she may see fit to do so.

R. H., Washington.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a married woman, leaving no will, and leaving a surviving husband and two or more children, the husband would receive one third of her estate, the balance going in equal shares to the children, the heirs of any deceased child taking the parents' share; we do not think it makes any difference if the children are by a former marriage; we do not think a former husband from whom she had procured a divorce would have any share in her estate. We do not think the divorce of the parents bars them, or either of them, from their rights of inheritance from their children's estates, in such cases as the parents are the heirs at law and next of kin.

O. B. G., Michigan.—We think an action brought, in the name of any person other than the name of the owner of the chose of action, could be defeated very easily, as the first thing necessary to a recovery, in an action at law is to prove that the plaintiff in the action is entitled to recover from the defendant. We think the principal difference between an endorser and a maker of a promissory note is that a maker is first liable for the payment of the note, while the endorser has always the privilege, in case he pays the note, of looking to the maker to reimburse him.

Pink Rose, Missouri.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that the signature of the husband is necessary to the conveyance of the real estate of a married woman. (2) Under the laws of Arkansas we are of the opinion that the husband must join in the conveyance of the real estate of his wife if the lands were acquired before October 13, 1874, but that if the lands were acquired since that time and have been legally scheduled, as provided by the laws of that state, as the sole and separate property of the wife, and the property was acquired by the wife by gift, grant, inheritance or will, such lands may be willed or conveyed by the wife in the same manner as if she were unmarried.

Miss T. W., Michigan.—Under the laws of your state we are of the opinion, that a female is capable of contracting marriage at sixteen years of age, but that for all other purposes she becomes of age at twenty-one years.

Mrs. N. B., Oklahoma.—Under the laws of Nebraska, we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a married woman leaving no will, but leaving her surviving husband and two or more children, her real estate would descend one fourth part to the husband if he is not the parent of all the children, and if he is the parent of all the children one third part to him, the balance in either case being divided in equal shares among the children, the descendants of any deceased child taking the parents' share; that her personal estate after the payment of her debts and certain allowances to her husband and any of her children as may be minors would be distributed to the same persons in the same proportions. We think if the personal estate, after the payment of debts and administration expenses, only amounts to a few hundred dollars, it would be entirely eaten up by the above mentioned allowance.

S. B., New Jersey.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a woman, leaving no will, and leaving no husband, descendants nor father, her real estate would descend in equal shares to the brothers and sisters of the whole blood, and the personal property would be divided in equal shares between the mother and brothers and sisters. We think the share of such of the persons entitled to receive as may be minors would go to them through a general guardian. We think the real estate would descend direct, but that the personal property would have to be administered through an administrator appointed by the court.

Mrs. J. D., Montana.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion, that upon the death of a man, leaving no will, and leaving no descendants, one half of his estate would go to his widow and the other half to his father and mother, if the father and mother be dead their half would go in equal shares to his brothers and sisters, if he leaves no father, mother, brother or sister, we think the whole estate would go to his widow.

X. Y. Z., California.—Under the laws of your state, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a man leaving no will and leaving a widow and one child, his estate would go in equal shares to the said widow and child; that the widow can be disinherited by will from any interest in his estate except as to community property, that the child can be disinherited, of course, if he has been divorced from his wife or if there be a legal separation under the decree of some court of competent jurisdiction, or by a written and duly executed agreement of separation, providing for her support or interest in his estate, she would not inherit as provided above.

Mrs. S. M., South Dakota.—Under the laws of Illinois we are of the opinion that the children of a woman by her second marriage have no interest in the real estate which belongs to the estate of her first husband, in a case where he died leaving descendants of his own, and leaving no will, or if he left a will providing that in case his widow remarried she should have only such interest in his estate as she would receive in case of intestacy.

L. J. W., Arkansas.—Under the laws of New Mexico, we are of the opinion that upon the death of a man, leaving no will, and leaving no children or descendants, his whole estate, after the payment of his debts, would go to his surviving widow.

V. L. B., Texas.—We think that at the time of payment the maker of a note should be careful to get the note back, or see the same cancelled or destroyed, as in case the payee, if the note was a negotiable one,

had, before maturity, transferred the same to some third party such holder could compel the maker to pay the note a second time, and the only recourse the maker would have, would be against the person to whom the payment was made, in the first instance.

Poultry Farming for Women

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15.)

seems to be the matter with my chickens. One side of their head swells up, and the eye closes up; after a day or two the other eye closes also, and the chickens cannot see to eat or drink. I killed three young hens last week; they are six months old. The young rooster is now the same way. I feed them wheat all summer; now I feed corn. Please answer and tell me what to do. They also get to coughing and wheezing.

W. S. C.—Will you please tell me what to do for my hens? Their left eye gets sore, then the left side of the head swells, and gets inflamed. They do not appear sick in any way, only they don't eat much, and it seems to be the left side of the head only. The eye runs so that there will be matter all over it at times. I hope to receive an answer through COMFORT columns soon.

G. W. K.—Enclosed find stamp for a reply to my question. Will you please answer it? I am a subscriber to COMFORT and could not do without it. I wish it would come oftener. What I want to ask you is in regard to my chickens. They seem to have sore eyes. It looks like a little sorepods at first, and then the eye goes shut and it will be that way a few days, and then it gets little lumps around it, and when I open it there is a yellow stuff that has formed, and it seems to smell so. Will you please tell me what to do? I have been looking in your paper, but I did not see anything that is like that; and so many of my chickens have a sneezing, I don't know what it is, as I am so careful of them so that they won't get a cold. Some have yellow stuff in their mouths. I have used oil, but that don't help, so if you will please write and let me know what to do, I will be very thankful to you.

A.—First, let me impress upon you that any watery condition of the eye, swollen head, or growth of any sort in the mouth and throat, are all symptoms of cold, and may not be roup; but if neglected, is morally sure to develop into roup. If a draught strikes birds on the roost, from the left side of the house, or from the right side of the house, it is very likely that the first symptoms you notice will appear on one side of the bird's head, so you see that any bubbles of matter in the eyes, or swelling round the eyes, nostrils or face, should all be treated immediately. The first thing to do when you see a bird suffering with any symptoms of cold, is to catch it, open the beak, and if there is any disagreeable odor from the breath, there is no doubt about the case being one of roup. If, on the other hand, there is no offensive odor, it is only a common cold, which is not contagious, and can be easily doctored. I have constantly given what I consider the best remedy for roup, which is to dissolve half a teaspoonful of permanganate of potassium in a pint of warm water; dilute one tablespoonful of the mixture with three of plain water; syringe the bird's eyes, nostrils and throat. When you are quite sure it is a case of roup, remove the bird at once to a warm sheltered coop, away from all other poultry. Under no circumstances, ever allow a bird that has once been

afflicted with roup to go back into the breeding pen, for their progeny are very likely to have constitutional weakness, which will make them extremely susceptible to diseases.

A subscriber who keeps a large poultry and stock farm, has kindly sent in the following letter about turkeys and Indian Runner ducks:

Dear Madam.—Will you kindly tell A. R. through your department in COMFORT that if she gives her turkey one tablespoonful pulverized charcoal and one teaspoonful of common baking soda to every ten or twelve turkeys once a day in their barley, chops and shorts, she can let them go where they will, and eat anything they want to. This will relieve very severe cases of indigestion, and that is what ails her birds. If she had given her name and address I would have written her at once, but this will help save them next year.

Please tell L. A. B. that the sex of Indian Runner ducks can be told as soon as they are feathered, as the body of the male is longer and appears more slender than that of the duck. The curl appears when they are about twelve to fourteen weeks old; while they are large enough for market when from six to eight weeks for broilers, and ten to twelve weeks for roasters. I know nothing about other breeds of ducks, but should think the sex could be determined the same way by careful observation. Anyone breeding Indian Runner ducks should introduce new blood into their flock each year, as there is nothing so detrimental to the Runners as inbreeding.

The following is a letter from a little girl who is interested in poultry. I was very pleased to receive it, and I am sure that other juvenile readers will be glad to read it, and I hope it may encourage some of them to take poultry under their care. I know one boy who made enough money while attending common school, to carry him through college, so I know that it is quite possible for school boys and girls to make a success of poultry-keeping.

Pleasures for School Girls

We have Rhode Island Reds and Single Comb White Leghorns. I am twelve years old, and go to school at Hixson, Tenn. When I get home of evenings, I get my basket and gather the eggs. I like this, and think it is fine sport to gather the eggs. I enjoy packing the eggs for hatching. Of evenings we wrap the eggs in paper and then pack them in baskets and boxes, label them and then they are ready to ship to their new home, where they will hatch little chicks for other little girls to gather eggs from.

I have a little sister that is large enough to help me gather and pack the eggs. I think it is a beautiful sight to see a basket full of nice large white eggs. The White Leghorns lay white eggs, and the Reds lay a large red egg, or rather brown in color.

Most girls enjoy gathering eggs and feeding the chickens. In the morning I get up about six o'clock and feed the chickens mixed corn, wheat, rye and oats. We keep beef scraps and dry mash in troughs for them all the time. They have all the good fresh water they want at all times. It is my job to keep new nest material in the nests all the time. I use for this hay, straw and leaves.

I am taking my vacation through Christmas now, and will be at home all the time through this week and next. I enjoy working and going to school and would be glad to see letters from other little girls that work, and like it.

CONNIE ROGERS, Hixson, Tenn.

Anyone can take your measure



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It is a medicine that has cured women's ailments—one that has to its credit nearly twenty years of success and a record of thousands upon thousands of cures, and so positive am I that it will help you if you are suffering with any form of women's ailments, that I will gladly send this 50-cent box free. I will send it free to prove that I can benefit you or any suffering sister.

You know what the ailments of women are and since from past experience I know what will cure them, I want every suffering woman to embrace this opportunity to get well and strong and enjoy 365 healthy, happy days every year.

My mission is to make sick women well, and I will gladly send you, your daughter, your mother, or any ailing friend a full 50-cent box of Balm of Figs Compound absolutely free. It is a remedy that cures women's ailments, and I want to tell you all about it, so that if you are suffering from any form of the well known symptoms of female weakness, you will know just exactly what to do. I want to tell you just how to cure yourself right at home, without the aid of a Doctor—and the best of it is, it will not in the least interfere with your work or pleasure.

Balm of Figs Compound is just the remedy to make sick women well and weak women strong and I can prove it—let me prove it to you—I will gladly do it and do it free, for I never heard of anything that does so quickly and surely cure women's ailments. No internal dosing is necessary. It is a local treatment, yet it has to its credit some of the most extraordinary cures on record. Therefore I want to place it in the hands of every woman suffering with any form of Leucorrhoea, Painful Periods, Ulceration, Inflammation, Displacement or Falling of the Womb, Ovarian or Uterine Tumors, Growths, or any of the weaknesses so common to women.

NOTE:—I will also send you free our book entitled "A Perfect Woman." This book should be in the hands of every woman and will prove of great benefit to all who receive it. I want you to have one.—H. M. R.

I want to do this because I know just what it will accomplish when given a fair trial, and have every faith that it will do as much for you or any suffering woman as it has done for the many others who have given it the opportunity.

READ WHAT OTHERS SAY

The following extracts are only a few of the comments of friends which I am constantly receiving from those who have given Balm of Figs Compound a fair trial.

"Since my own wonderful recovery I have persuaded many of my friends to try the remedy, and could tell of many remarkable cures by this simple, inexpensive treatment." Sincerely yours—MRS. A. L. GRAM.

"I had been a great sufferer for 29 years prior to using your remedy, but I am now a perfectly well woman and owe my life entirely to the simple use of Balm of Figs Compound." Sincerely yours, MRS. MARY E. SMITH.

"I feel that your remedy has saved my life and that I am indeed indebted to your representative for having persuaded me to give it a trial. It seems that I have never known before how glorious it is to enjoy perfect health, and you can rest assured that I will never lose the opportunity of telling others what it accomplished in my case." Yours truly, MRS. MARY J. WITTE.

"Balm of Figs Compound was certainly a Godsend in our family, and I hope every woman who reads this will be convinced that it is just as represented." Very truly yours, MRS. FRANK P. GOODMAN.

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I will send it to you absolutely free to prove its splendid qualities, and then if you wish to continue further it will cost you only a few cents a week.

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Nothing is so convincing as the actual test of the article itself. Will you give Balm of Figs Compound this test? Write to me today and remember if you will simply fill out the attached coupon and return it to me I will gladly send you the 50c box of Balm of Figs Compound absolutely free for the asking, or if you prefer to write a letter you can address me in all confidence.

Mrs. Harriet M. Richards Special Box E 23 Joliet, Illinois

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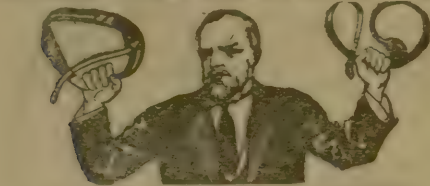


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The Lifting of the Veil

Advice to Mothers on a Delicate Subject

By Mrs. J. Brown
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A QUESTION that often puzzles a mother is, "when shall I reveal to my children the facts of life that are hidden from childish knowledge in the earliest years?" The growing girl and boy alike need protection from temptation and from coarse vulgarity, and what the mother wants to know is shall the protection be that of innocence and ignorance, or innocence and knowledge?

There are many mothers who seem to be strangely in haste to "lift the veil," which nature has kindly interposed between childhood and maturity, while there are others who from mistaken delicacy are so slow in performing a manifest duty that the reason of adolescence for their sons and daughters is beset by needless dangers.

It should never be forgotten that even in the same household no two children are precisely similar. And the mother who starts out with a cast-iron set of rules, determined to bend her children to them one and all, without considering temperament and disposition, will make a dreary failure in bringing up a family. Rules should be elastic. Methods must be adapted to children, not children to methods. Yet, it may be broadly stated that little people of five, six and seven should be left alone, undisturbed in the Garden of Eden without so much a taste of the fruit that grows upon the tree of knowledge. A mother comes to me seriously asking: "What shall I tell my little girl of six in regard to the mysteries of life?" I say with emphasis, "Let her alone, and tell her nothing." And, if the mother goes on to insist that at school and in the playground the child's curiosity may be aroused by the talk of others, I still say, "tell her nothing as yet," but take pains to give her this sufficient armor against anything wrong that she may learn from playmates. Tell the little daughter and the little son to come to mother with everything and to the daughter more than the son say, "when children whisper to you and tell you secrets, always let them know you tell your mother everything, and that you have no secrets from her. This will be a great protection to the child.

So far as possible mothers should keep an eye on the companions of their children, letting them freely come to the house out of school hours, and encouraging them to go on with their little affairs within hearing of the mother. Some of us make the mistake of caring so much for neatness in the house and around the door that we drive the children out of sight and sound in their play. The mother who can keep inviolate the confidence of her children from infancy until they are grown need not fear very much either for their morals or their manners. Her devoted love will be their best defence and their strongest shield in the hour of temptation. Inevitably, a time arrives when the most preoccupied child, the most absorbed and the least curious, is forced to know something about the mysteries of creation. The reproduction of life is so manifest at every turn, even in the brood of fluffy chicks surrounding the mother hen to say nothing of higher forms, that it cannot long escape the child's notice and the inquiring mind of youth has to learn something about it. As nothing is more sacred, nothing more beautiful and nothing more continually repeated than procreation, and the mother should herself unfold to her child of eleven or twelve, or perhaps thirteen, all that is really essential for the child to know. Sons and daughters who are told simply and directly by their mothers, truth about the facts of life at a period in their own lives when physical changes begin, will continue as really innocent, as pure and as free from evil thoughts and degrading fancies, as they were in their cradles. Few things are more pitiful, few neglects are more criminal than those which follow in the wake of ignorance concerning the respect due to one's body, and there are also cases of mental depression and almost of imbecility on the part of young people, the responsibility for which lies, alas, at the door of many affectionate parents. When the hour of revelation comes, make the explanation carefully and with good advice, and follow it with watchfulness, but do not make it a continual theme of conversation. As an additional protection, when children grow up and reach the border line over which they will pass to manhood and womanhood, let them have plenty of good food in which meat does not form too prominent an element, and give them a chance to mingle in all the healthy, athletic, outdoor sport that is possible. A judicious mixture of work and play is good for boys and girls, as they approach the early teens. Some share in the home work, something expected as a daily duty and exacted as important and periodic, should be required of each boy and girl. It does not so much matter what the particular duty is as that whatever it is shall be done punctually, without loitering by the way, without procrastination and without slovenly performance. The little girl who makes her bed should be taught

and expected to make it beautifully; the boy who goes to the post-office or the general store should be trained to responsibility and be exact and trustworthy in carrying out his errands. Busy boys and girls have little time left for engaging in forbidden subjects of conversation.

If we are to bring our children up into strong, clean and fearless maturity, we must, so far as possible, keep the balance well poised as to the physical and spiritual life. The scale must not tip too far in any direction. Clean thoughts make clean speech. Boys and girls who are trained in sufficient knowledge of the respect for their own bodies are likely to have almost as a matter of course, the right feeling about their own souls. And, to guard the speech of children from every least taint of impurity is quite as important as to guard it from profanity. Both are sins against God and nature, which is God's handmaid.

And, now, having said all this, let me hint to the over-sensitive woman and the one whose conscience bears upon her as a burden, that she must save herself from too great anxiety and from the worry that will wear her out. I would say we had best, "Leave it all in God's hands." When you and I have done our very best and have asked help from One who never refuses to give it, we must be contented to leave the issue with Divine providence. Our children are God's children, and their Heavenly Father looks out for them as He does for the birds in the nest and the cattle on a thousand hills.

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6 HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSES

Where They Go, They Grow

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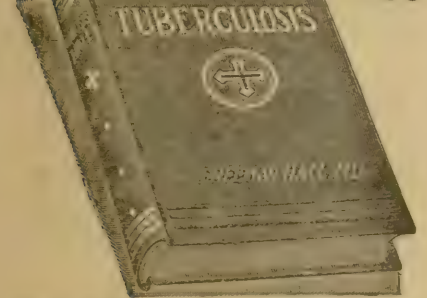
- BLACK ROSE** The production of a rose of this rare color has long been sought after and the rose-loving public is to be congratulated upon its introduction. It marks the highest attainment of the hybridizers' skill, and for grace, form and magnificent color, it is supreme in its class beauty. The plant grows bushy and vigorously, covering itself with a coat of elegant foliage, which is absolutely immune to black spots and mildew. The color and texture are the most wonderful ever seen in a rose, each petal appearing as though cut from the heaviest rich velvet, shading from deepest marmalade-red to blackish crimson. It blooms constantly in great successive crops of large, double flowers, which possess a most delightful fragrance.
- MY MARYLAND** A rare combination of a poetic name and exquisite beauty has made this new variety a dangerous rival of all the most famous pink beauties. A great outdoor rose of extreme hardiness, rapidly producing a sturdy, shapely plant, which in fact is a distinct ornament to any garden. The rich green foliage is not the least of its charms, clothing the long stiff stems with cool verdant beauty. All summer through the large perfectly double magnificent flowers are borne, composed of thick, heavy petals unsurpassed in elegance of form. As they expand, their beauty seems to be enhanced, the brilliant lively shade of pink deepening until it fairly glows with its warm rich color and delightful fragrance.
- WHITE AMERICAN BEAUTY** This brilliant white rose has become renowned as the very highest type of its class and the best snow-white rose ever produced. It has won more prizes in Europe than any variety sent out in years, well deserving to be called the white companion of our national red beauty. It is an extraordinarily strong grower, branching freely and has the vigor and hardiness of an oak. The foliage is large, of very heavy texture, but the glory of this plant, however, is its magnificent flowers, immense in size and produced with great freedom on long, stiff stems. Indeed a single plant will produce hundreds of massive flowers, which are full, very deep and double and composed of broad, long charmingly veined petals of splendid substance. The color is marvelously white, positively without a suggestion of any tint or shade of color. It is absolutely hardy everywhere and its regal beauty is not excelled by any other rose known.
- YELLOW KAISERIN** This charming rose created quite a sensation when introduced, surpassing all others of its color. A description is inadequate to portray the exquisite beauty of the buds and flowers of this variety which are the glory of the plant. It is a robust, rapid grower, very hardy, quickly making a well formed symmetrical bush, which produces most liberally great quantities of exquisite roses. They are handsomely made, extra large and perfectly double of a rich canary yellow, celebrated for their delicious fragrance and elegance of form and contour.
- RHEA REID** A wonderful new introduction, possessing every quality a perfect rose should have. Everyone raves about its extraordinary beauty and after having seen it bloom, we can appreciate their enthusiasm. It is a strong, healthy grower, throwing forth long graceful branches, which are densely covered with heavy deep green foliage and handsome double flowers, which are produced in the greatest profusion all through the growing season. It has the vitality necessary to withstand all attacks of disease and insects which so frequently destroy our best roses. The buds develop into large, double flowers, formed of thick petals of excellent substance which retain their freshness and beauty for an extensive time. The color is a vivid scarlet crimson, and the flowers are marvels of beauty, large and bold.
- DOROTHY PERKINS** This rose is a most valuable addition to the list of hardy climbing varieties and without question one which should be extensively planted. It is perfectly hardy, standing very severe winters unprotected, and without an exception is the most rapid, vigorous grower of all climbing roses. The beauty of the foliage produced by this rose is deserving of special mention and is one of its valuable and charming assets. The leaves are thickly and evenly distributed over all branches from the ground to tips. In habit of bloom it is extremely liberal, producing flowers in immense clusters, each rose being perfect in form and of good size. The color is an exquisite shade of clear, shell pink, deepening to a darker shade near the center.

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Does it Flutter, Palpitate or Skip Beats? Have you Shortness of Breath, Tenderness, Numbness or Pain in left side, Painful Swelling of Feet, Spots before the eyes, Sudden Starting in sleep, Nightmare, Hungry or Weak Spells, Oppressed Feeling in chest, Choking Sensation in throat, Cold Hands or Feet, Difficulty to lie on left side, Cold Hands or Feet, Swelling of the feet or ankles, or Neuralgia around the heart? If you have one or more of the above symptoms of heart disease, don't fail to use Dr. Kinsman's Celebrated Heart Tablets. One out of four has a weak or diseased heart. Three-fourths of these do not know they have heart trouble, and thousands die who have been wrongfully treated for the Stomach, Lungs, Kidneys or Nerves. Don't drop dead like hundreds of others, when Dr. Kinsman's Heart Tablets are within your reach.

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Indestructible Dolls to be Stuffed that Stand Up or Sit Down. Their Heads Will Not Come Off. These unbreakable dolls are nearly two feet high and so large they can either stand up or sit down. Their Beautiful Golden Hair, bright red stockings and black shoes make them very attractive for either young or older children. You get these dolls and you are sure that the nose can't be broken off nor can baby punch in the eyes; the bright colored cheeks and ruby lips retain their color and shape for all time. Every child before it is born from one to twenty different kinds of dolls in its family. Bright inventors, artists, and mechanics have been at work for years trying to perfect low-price, painted, indestructible dolls that can be made to sit down, bend over, stand on their heads, move arms and legs, and be placed in all sorts of cute positions, either when dressed or undressed. The doll shown in cuts, just patented, is a most wonderful and successful result of long, weary trials. They are beautifully finished, and can be placed in any natural position. Will last for years. Are more lifelike than anything ever gotten out before. For hours and hours every child will play with these good old grandma style, unbreakable stuffed dolls, even putting aside the very expensive and more elegantly silk and satin dressed dolls, never tiring of these as they can be dressed in many different ways to suit the taste. They can be filled with more or less cotton just as the weight is preferred, as the material they are made of enables you to sew them together easily, so as to have a good, fat, plump doll or one of lighter weight.



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Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Things the Modern Farmer Must Know

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

GROWING ONIONS.—I would like to have all the information on the growing of onions that you can give. Will onion seed grow as large onions as onion sets will? What is the best thing to give them a start? Will fertilizer, and how would you use it? What is considered a fair yield of onions from a half acre?

D. E. LA RUE, Trenton, N. J.

A.—Where every condition is favorable onions grow to full size from seed, but sets give the best chance of success and are preferred for early crops in all southern and dry, uncertain climates. Northern growers make a business of producing the sets for such use. The sets are used almost entirely for the production of extra early crops. Where onions mature with certainty there is no need of using sets for the average crop for seed and for winter storing. Choose a mellow loam inclining to sand rather than to clay as a suitable bed for onions. They do well on a clover sod. Fifty pounds of nitrate of soda to the acre is best as a stimulant for starting young onions and is best used just before a rain. The formula advised for the general crop is as follows: Acid phosphate, 800 pounds; fish scrap, dried blood, or cotton seed meal, 800 pounds; muriate of potash, 400 pounds, to make one ton. Use 500 pounds or more to the acre according to richness or poverty of soil. Short rotted stable manure, earth and lime compost and "night soil" make a good top dressing for onions. Hen manure is also valuable.

CEMENT FLOOR FOR STABLE.—Please inform me how many inches thick a concrete floor in barn used for horses and cows should be?

W. B. REDBELL, Pipestone, Minn.

A.—Four inches will do if there is a very good, solid bed of cinders, etc., below the cement, but it is safest to put in five and a half inches of coarse concrete mixture and then put on half to three quarters of an inch of finer "finish" material.

GROWING CLOVER.—I have a very level five acre field. Please tell me when to plant clover seed, what kind of clover is best adapted to level land, and how to care clover hay properly?

Mrs. A. C. S., Mt. Healthy, Ohio.

A.—It is scarcely safe policy to sow red clover alone as the crop is difficult to cure well in a wet season and may require the use of hay crops which are expensive and take time to put on. Alfalfa hay is saved by capping in this way and the same method of handling the crop applies to clover. Ordinarily it is best to seed a mixture of Timothy and red clover. This may be done in spring, the field being sown to barley, if that does well in your district, or in oats, if you prefer to grow that crop. Oats do not, however, make the most suitable nurse crops for clover. Or the clover seed may be sown on the last snow, on fall plowed land or on winter rye or wheat. The crop is cut when in bloom, and the blossoms just turning brown, if for hay; or when ripe, if intended for seed, the second growth being cut for that purpose. Choose, if possible, fine, bright, dry weather with a wind blowing for clover curing. Cut, turn the windrows to dry, stir as little as possible, cock in small heaps, cap if necessary. Stack when sufficiently dry, if not sufficiently dry it may be stacked layer about with oat straw rather than to let it spoil in field.

WOOD ASHES FOR FERTILIZER.—At my father's saw mill there is about ten tons of ashes, out of pine, oak, gum poplar, and hickory logs. Will it pay me to haul some one mile to good level red land, for fertilizer? If so what ought to be mixed with them to make a good fertilizer? MRS. W. L. LIVINGSTON, Ala.

A.—Yes, it will pay to haul the ashes, and especially for fertilizing tobacco, or potato ground. A suitable mixture to harrow in on surface of plowed land, prior to seeding or planting, would be a mixture of equal parts ashes and slacked lime and two parts rich loam earth, composted in heap and turned a couple of times before application to the soil. The mixture also will prove beneficial on garden patch, or for roots or cabbage.

CORN SMUT.—Is there anything to prevent smut in corn? If so, what? How should the corn be treated before planting? We live in Arizona where the soil is good but not much rain, and we have to farm on the dry farming plan.

Mrs. E. M. H., Light, Arizona.

A.—As corn smut is not carried in the kernels of corn used as seed the disease cannot be prevented by treating seed corn. It is necessary to go through the growing crop of corn several times in the season and cut off and absolutely destroy every ear and tassel found affected by smut. If this is done carefully and persistently land may be rendered comparatively free of corn smut; but a crop rotation also has to be followed so as not to have corn follow corn too closely.

SPRAYING WHEN TREES ARE IN FRUIT.—I am much interested in what you have said at various times about spraying trees. Of course I understand that most if not all the spraying mixtures are poisonous and I would like to know when it will do to spray with any of these mixtures when trees are in fruit, and if so, which mixtures can be thus used, at what stage of fruiting they can be applied with safety, and what is the effect on the fruit? G. M., Mich.

A.—See article on spraying in this issue. It gives instruction as to what to use and when to use solutions for spraying for various insects and other troubles. Spraying on the fruit when formed is unnecessary and practically useless. It is too late to do much good then. Follow instructions given in the article; also, in bulletins recommended.

CLEARING LAND.—I am clearing land and would like to know the quickest way to kill timber whether by cutting or burning. I have some trees that will not die the first year. Have heard that if hacked at a certain time of the moon it would kill them. Is it best to plow new ground deep the first year? Shall I mulch the soil? W. M. L., Windsor, Ky.

A.—You should have stated nature of soil on your timber land. Burning is the slowest way of getting rid of stumps as charring is a preventive of rotting. The "phase of the moon" idea is based upon superstition and not on fact. Girdling the tree bark a foot wide near the ground will kill the tree if done in July or other hot, dry times. If you cut the trees in winter, peel the stumps to the ground level in spring; or better still get the land into grass as quickly as possible and turn cows into the stump pasture. Hardwood stumps should not be left years or so. Cows soon kill any growths that start from or get rid of stumps is to blow them out with dynamite. Give shallow culture and seed to grass. Mulching will be unnecessary if you seed to oats or rye to shade the young grass plants.

HORSE BEANS.—How about raising horse beans such as I have heard they grow in England and feed to hogs? What is best to raise on low land? J. A., Centralia, Wash.

A.—Horse beans do not thrive well in America. They do best in a moist, cool climate; but with beans, if the mold or mildew is not profitable. These beans grow in large, long pods on a strong central stalk about one to two feet high. The beans are small, soft and yellow brown in color and are mostly used as a part ration with oats and corn for horse feeding in Great Britain. We have tried them in the Western states and failed to grow them profitably. 2. Follow the practice of other farmers in the district. If black mulch and manure by moist and rich celery does well on the low land. If potash is added corn fodder also ought to succeed. In most instances meadow grasses do well for hay crops if the water in soil is not stagnant. A thorough system of draining is necessary to make any crop succeed. In Michigan peppermint and spearmint are successfully grown on such lands.

WEDDY LAND.—I have a piece of rich land that is very weddy. What is the best way to get rid of the weeds? 2. I also have a narrow strip of land between two buildings so that little sun gets to it. What would be best to plant on it? 3. What time in the spring should sunflower seeds be planted, and do they bloom the same season? 4. I would like to know something about mushroom growing. Should they be started in the winter or spring, and can they be grown in an attic in the winter as well as in the cellar? 5. Is horsehead raised from the root or seed? Have heard that it might be grown with potatoes. S. S., West Bangor, Maine.

A.—Have the land plowed as soon as possible in spring and then hoe out the weeds, or harrow them out weekly until the land is fit to seed to some profitable crop. You do not state size of field. It is likely that a good crop, like sweet corn, potatoes or squash will give best results until you get the land clean of weeds. The hoe will have to be kept going. 2. All plants need sunlight to grow anything profitably. Vegetables may not thrive fairly well, if properly tended and fertilized. 3. As soon as the soil can be worked in spring. They bloom the same season if they get sunlight. 4. The profit is in supplying winter mushrooms and the beds have to be prepared in fall. There would



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TOBACCO HABIT CONQUERED IN 72 HOURS

be no profit for you in attempting summer culture. The attic could not be used for the work. Full information relative to mushroom culture may be found in Farmers' Bulletin, 204, which maybe had by writing to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 5. Horsehound is a perennial plant and grows from seed. There are two varieties: one suitable for high ground, one for low ground. While the plant may be grown along with potatoes, on suitable soil, there is an objection to growing it there, or anywhere else on the farm, and that is that it is likely to become a pestiferous weed and difficult to eradicate.

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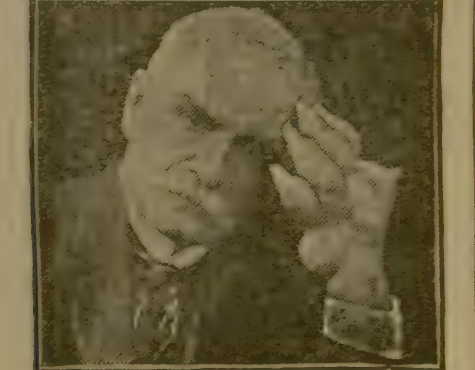
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Another Good Man Gone Wrong

By Hubert Haines

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IN the half-dusk of an evening in late winter, Mrs. Oliver Hazard Perry Silverton was spinning home in her automobile after an afternoon's shopping. Thorough contentment with things as they are shone placidly on her plump face. No wonder. She was the wife of a millionaire; she held a distinguished social position in the set just next to the very elect; she had a devoted husband—"Chaufeur!" she cried; "slow down! Slow down!"

Yes, there was the devoted husband standing in the lee of a big office building, talking to a woman. They stood close together, and horrors! the female creature was punctuating her remarks to Mr. Silverton by tapping the fur lapel of his overcoat with the forefinger of her white-gloved hand. With that miraculous rapidity of women in measuring up another of the sex, Mrs. Silverton made a lightning calculation of the seducer. She was forty-seven if she was a day. She was bony and bloodless. She was lemon-faced. And such a fright of a hat! Heavens! Could her husband have descended to her? "Slower, chauffeur, slower!"

And before Mrs. Silverton's very eyes, O. H. P. Silverton and the woman strolled together down a side street and were lost to view. Gone the content from Mrs. Silverton's face! Gone as it would seem, the very plumpness of her cheeks! She reached home a dejected and downcast mortal, and ran up-stairs to cry her eyes out. When her mingled rage and sorrow were at the flood, the telephone rang. She answered. It was Mr. Silverton.

"Don't expect me for dinner, dear; I am unavoidably—"

Crash! The receiver went on the hook, and the outraged wife flew to her room in fury. So her home was wrecked; her happiness blasted; the man she loved, the husband of spotless name, and of singular reputation for probity in business, was a scoundrel, a hypocrite, a profligate! Here was she, the faithful wife, alone tonight in the big dismal house, while he was slumbering at the caresses of an adventuress!

Were these conclusions too hasty? Too hasty? Put the case to any married woman you know—a husband talking confidentially in the twilight to a woman who taps the lapel of his coat; they walk down a street, a darling street, together; fifteen minutes later the man's telephone that he cannot come home to dinner; put this evidence, I say, before any married woman or jury of married women, and you will get a verdict of unanimous justification of Mrs. Silverton's righteous wrath.

That in Mrs. Silverton's mind her wrath was righteous, and the injury that called it forth, real, deep and irreparable, her swollen eyes bore witness as she came down to the lonely dinner-table. She ate nothing, and after sipping a little wine returned to her room with a heart of lead, to face a night of tears, brief rest, and horrible dreams. But there was necessity for action and as she lay awake she formed her plans. She would adopt methods, careful but remorseless, for finding all possible evidence. She would give Silverton no reason to suspect what she was about. She would enter the several items in a notebook with circumstantial detail. When the chain was complete, her lawyer would have nothing more to do than draw up the papers and present the case. Then one more fair reputation would be blasted, and one more dishonored wife revenged. She even thought of the amount of alimony she would claim, twenty thousand dollars a year. After that, if Oliver Hazard Perry Silverton wanted to marry the hideous wretch with whom he was doubtless making merry at this very moment, let him!

Next day, she bade Mr. Silverton a cold good morning, and they ate breakfast in silence. Once she caught him looking guiltily at her out of the corner of his eye. That look alone was enough to incriminate him. He was worried. He was not himself. He was feeling beyond a doubt as he sat there by his innocent wife, stabs of conscience for his perfidy. Had he made an open confession to her then and there, he could hardly have shown more clearly the scar of sin upon his soul. An embarrassed manner, a preoccupied air, a furtive look—all these speak an intelligible language to one who has the key. Mrs. Silverton had the key.

During the morning Mr. Silverton called up to request that the chauffeur fetch him immediately a wallet which he had left on his dressing-case. Before giving the wallet to the chauffeur, Mrs. Silverton opened and examined it. It contained several business papers, some currency, and, in a little pocket, a card. Mrs. Silverton's face whitened and her hand shook as she read:

"Miss Carolina Green,"
and this inscription written beneath the name in an unknown hand:
"A visit every day."

Mrs. Silverton sank into a chair and cried for five minutes. Then she copied the card in her note-book—the deadly note-book—and sent off the wallet. One by one the links were forging.

After a day of misery in which hopeless sadness alternated with stern resolve, Mrs. Silverton ordered the chauffeur to have the car ready at five o'clock. She would drive by the scene of yesterday evening's discovery, and perhaps pick up another link. She drove to the spot, circled the square and returned, but neither Mr. Silverton nor the woman was to be seen. But the wild zest of the chase had got into Mrs. Silverton's brain. She would not give up. She would do a daring thing. She would go to Mr. Silverton's office. Perhaps there in the winter gloaming, with all the clerks gone home, she would find her husband and this Carolina Green,

who had written the tender memorandum: "A visit every day." It was now half-past five, a most probable hour in which to trap this husband without reproach, this business man of probity, this leader in church, society, party and club.

The car stopped before the great building, on the fourth floor of which were the offices of the Silverton Lumber Company. Mrs. Silverton took the elevator. She stepped out on the fourth floor trembling as though in a fit of ague, from fear, from eagerness, from the imminence of the possibility of an awful, a shocking, a decisive discovery. Two doors below her husband's suite of offices, she met a janitor's helper, a negro, with a waterpail in one hand and a mop in the other.

"Can you tell me," she said forcing the agitated words through chattering teeth, "if Mr. Silverton is in his office?"

"Yas'm, Yas'm, he's dere yit."

"Is he—is he—alone?"

"No, indeed; he ain't alone. A lady done been comin' to see him every evenin' fo'a week. She's in dere now, she suah is."

Mrs. Silverton, ghastly in her pallor, leaned against the wall.

"Which of the office-rooms are they in?" she asked.

"Dey's in Mr. Silverton's private room. Dat's where dey always goes."

"Is anyone else in the offices?"

"No one else. Dey's all alone."

With trembling limbs, and a heart that bounded in her bosom as though to tear itself loose, Mrs. Silverton approached the suite of the Silverton Lumber Company, and opened the outer door. She was familiar with the rooms, and knew that if she kept from making a noise, she could probably get a look into Mr. Silverton's private room without being observed. She cautiously pushed open the door of Room No. 2. This was a large room, and in the further corner of it was a door, through the glass panels of which a good view of her husband's sanctum, which next adjoined, could be obtained. Mrs. Silverton edged along the wall toward this door. She reached it and stood flat against the high wainscoting, listening, listening, while her heart surged so madly that she was sure the floor shook. She heard voices but could make out nothing intelligible. Now for the supreme venture of bodily placing herself before the glass panels and looking through. She knew that if her husband was at his desk, his back would be toward her, and she would be safe from discovery. But if they were standing up, if they were facing the door—

"This is no time for going into a debate on the subject," said she to herself. "There's a risk

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 41.)



32 BULBS FREE TO YOU FOR EARLY SPRING BLOOMING

The great demand and flattering results obtained by our subscribers who received the premium collection of bulbs we offered last Fall has induced us to purchase double the quantity this year. But we would not advise you to delay sending your order as this increased supply will soon be consumed and you may be one of the disappointed. This entire collection of 32 bulbs consisting of six of the most popular and beautiful varieties of winter blooming house plants and early flowering Spring bulbs can be obtained with very little effort on your part. We are just realizing the value of these pretty bulbous plants which give such an air of refinement and add so much cheer to home surroundings, rendering them attractive and interesting and we want every reader of Comfort to possess this rare and beautiful assortment.



SINGLE and DOUBLE TULIPS.

10 - CROCUS - 10

The first flowers of Spring, how sweet and pretty they look and what charm they give the lawn as they lift their bright heads from the sod while the earth is yet cold and dormant from the long winter months. They bloom splendidly when planted on the lawn among the grass or a few planted in pots in the house will make a pretty show. The colors range through all the delightful blues and rich yellows making the flower for the million and the millionaire.

6 - OXALIS - 6

An unrivaled winter flowering plant of easy culture, succeeding everywhere requiring little attention and in fact producing better results in poor soil with a moderate amount of water than if given rich fertile soil and lots of attention. The little bulbs are strong luxuriant growers and when expanding in the sunshine the rich, varied and beautiful colors of their flowers present a picture of gorgeous beauty. The pots soon become a mass of pretty green foliage and the showy little flowers will appear in fine long-stemmed clusters.

5 - SNOWDROPS - 5

Lovely little blossoms and should be found in every garden. They are perfectly hardy and will hold their own and bloom well even when encroached by grass and weeds. The growth is dwarf but sturdy pushing up through the snow in early Spring, from which habit arose their name. Indeed they are equally pretty and easily brought into bloom.

4 SPANISH IRIS 4

No garden can have too many and anything we are able to say about them falls far short of the superb reality. They are not difficult to grow and the gorgeous shades and most odd and peculiar markings of the blooms cover a wide range of colors; but the real charm is the wondrous chasteness of every flower. They are deservedly esteemed for their perfect hardiness and free flowering qualities, blooming early in the season in the garden and making a pretty display of bloom when grown in the house.

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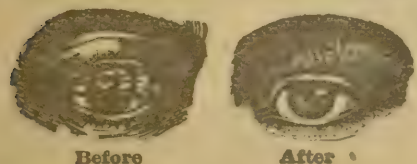
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Another Good Man Gone Wrong

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40.)

of being seen, but I must take it. And if the end comes now, the agony will be over all the sooner."

Boldly and decisively she stepped before the panels and looked through. Luck was with her. Seated at a desk, as close together as two chairs could be, their backs towards Mrs. Silvertown, their heads bent low over papers on which they were writing, were Oliver Hazard Perry Silvertown, and the scrawny creature, the bony and bloodless One, Lemon-face. As has been said, they were writing something—billet-doux, no doubt. For suddenly the woman straightened up in her chair and laughed heartily—a hideous laugh! Seeing this motion, Mrs. Silvertown fed, thinking they were about to rise.

As Mrs. Silvertown's car sped home, she wrote feverishly in her note-book, though her eyes were blurred and her hand shook almost uncontrollably. Another link, and how strong a one! That night at a rather freezing dinner table, Mrs. Silvertown, with a certain ring of triumph in her tone, remarked: "You seem worried."

"I am worried," answered her husband. "I have been called upon only a week beforehand to give an important speech before the Commercial Club. I can't write a speech and can't deliver one, but I was foolish enough to accept. It will be a big occasion, too. The mayor, two judges of the Supreme Court of the state, a lot of clever lawyers, and a member of the cabinet will be there. I should say I am worried!"

How clever a story! "What is your subject?" she inquired, coldly.

"The morality of the American business man," he answered.

She was too stunned to speak.

"It's a glorious topic," he went on; "all about the business man's incorruptibility in trade, loyalty to his friends, virtue in his home—"

"I will be going up-stairs now," interrupted his wife, that last phrase being more than she could endure. "I am sure you will need the entire evening to reflect upon so lofty a subject."

"Yes, I will," said Silvertown.

At eleven o'clock the next morning, Mrs. Silvertown answered an unusually violent ring at the telephone.

"Is Mr. Silvertown there?"—a woman's voice! "No, he is not here; but I—I am his private secretary, and receive his most confidential communications," she lied, burned two spots of shame on Mrs. Silvertown's cheeks—"so please give me the message."

"Well, I have been trying in vain to get him at his office all the morning, so I guess I'll have to. Tell him, please, that Miss Green cannot see him at two o'clock today. He must put off the visit until four. Please be careful to get it right. He is to call at Room 207, Sylvester Building, at four this afternoon. Understand?"

"Yes" (aside: "you contemptible monster!"), "I understand."

At noon Mrs. Silvertown despatched a messenger to her husband with the news that had come over the wire, and at half-past three she walked into the Sylvester Building and asked for the janitor.

Mr. Timothy Mulcahy who held that office, appeared in a few minutes, and asked what he could do for her.

"Mr. Janitor, is there any way by which I could observe what is going on in Room 207, without being seen by persons in the room?"

Out of the corners of his cunning Irish eyes, Mr. Mulcahy surveyed her from head to foot.

"Phwat do ye mane? Phwat am I up against?" he inquired.

"Mr. Janitor," Mrs. Silvertown assured him; "this is not going to get you into the slightest trouble. Don't be alarmed. I am a thoroughly respectable woman, and simply wish to look into Room 207 for a while this evening without being recognized. Would you mind taking this?"

Mulcahy looked at the twenty dollar gold piece in his palm, cleared his throat, shifted from one foot to the other, and touching Mrs. Silvertown's arm, led her into a corner, evidently for a confidential talk.

"Av coorse, Miss," he began in a low secretive voice: "I'm Irish, but I'm human. I'll do a bit of service for twenty dollars as quick as the next man. Yes, ye can get a full view of 207, an' be as bid as a rat in his hole. Above the cellin' in 207 is a narrer space where they keep wigs, an' coschumes, an' acotrs' things. An' there's a bit of grillwork in the cellin' that ye can look through, an' see into the room, if ye lie flat on yer—hem!—on yer stummock. Come op an' I'll show ye."

Mrs. Silvertown entered 207 which was vacant; climbed a rough staircase; and found herself in a low box of a room filled with litter which she did not stop to examine; and crawled to a grillwork about a foot square in the ceiling, through which, as Mulcahy said, she could look down into the room by lying on her "stummock." In that position Mulcahy left her.

For fifteen minutes she endured aching muscles, stifling air, and a universe of dust, and then Miss Carolina Green entered 207 alone. Fire shot down through the lattice from Mrs. Silvertown's eyes. It had no effect however on Miss Green, who strolled up and down the room humming a song, looking at her watch frequently, and yawning now and then.

The big clock out in the hall struck four, and Mr. Silvertown came in.

"Good afternoon, Miss Green, how are you today?"

"Fine! Fine! I take life as I find it and never worry," answered Miss Green.

"Now as a little preliminary," said Mr. Silvertown: "let me—" He took out a roll of bills, and counted off a number which he handed to Miss Green.

"Thank!" she said: "now let us begin."

Begin what? pondered Mrs. Silvertown's throbbing brain.

Mr. Silvertown walked to a low platform, almost directly under the eyes of his wife. Miss Green remained at the farther end of the room. Clearing his throat, Mr. Silvertown began: "Honored Guests, Gentlemen of the Commercial Club: To my great regret the invitation to address you on this most important topic came to me in the midst of overwhelming business cares, so that the remarks which I am to make will be almost wholly impromptu. But—"

"Now, Mr. Silvertown," interjected Miss Green: "if you are going to tell that whooper, tell it convincingly. You stammer through it in such a way as would let everybody know it is a lie."

Mrs. Silvertown could see the deep flush on her husband's face.

"Miss Green," he said: "really your criticisms are too savage. They hurt."

Miss Green laughed. "Oh, that's all right," she observed. "I am accustomed to correcting people rather sharply. I don't mean to be severe. Try to stand on your feet more easily will you? Less like a schoolboy on exhibition-day. Go on."

Mr. Silvertown went on: "But some subjects provide their own eloquence; some themes would deliver their own high message though every tongue were dumb."

Miss Green broke in again: "When I wrote that epigrammatic sentence for you, I meant it to make a hit. You have murdered it. Here's how it ought to go."

So for forty-five minutes the lesson went on. Mr. Silvertown being all but flayed alive by the razor-edged tongue of Miss Green. When at last the humiliation was at an end, he was red, perspiring and mad. The room was rather dark by that time, so Miss Green turned on an electric light over the stairway. When she did so, Mrs. Silvertown read this sign on the wall:

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That night for the first time in three days, Mrs. Silvertown gave her husband a kiss.

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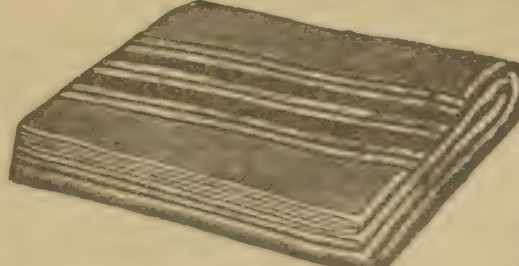
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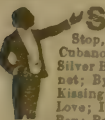
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Ulcers, Mercurial Ulcers, White Swelling, Milk Leg,
Fever Sores, all old sores. Positively no failure.
By mail 50c. **J. F. ALLEN, Dept. 23 St. Paul, Minn.**

MORPHINE

FREE TRIAL TREATMENT

Opium and all drug habits. Hundreds of
testimonials prove that our painless home remedy restores
the nervous and physical system and removes the craving.
A full trial treatment alone costs nothing. Write for free
trial. **ST. PAUL ASSOCIATION, Suite 212-216, Van Buren St. Chicago**

TOLD AROUND THE STOVE



A Little About Railroads

"When the first railroad for passengers was
opened in England in 1825 the train ran the
length of the road, twelve miles, in two hours,
and one of the best known writers on the subject
at that time wrote that nothing could do more
harm to the adoption of railways than the pro-
mulgation of such nonsense that locomotives
would in time be running twelve miles an hour.
Now, only 86 years later, locomotives have done
ten times twelve miles an hour, or nearly, and
sixty to seventy-five miles an hour right along
is not remarkable. Today in the United States
we have over 250,000 miles of railway, equipped
with 57,000 locomotives, 45,000 passenger cars
and 2,000,000 freight cars. We have railways
enough to make a ten track system around the
world, the freight cars would form five lines
from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the loco-
motives and passenger cars would reach almost
across the Pacific ocean."

Body Warmth and Clothing

"Originally people wore clothes to keep them-
selves warm," said the Professor, "and later they
wore them for ornament as well. The subject
of ornament is too large for me to talk about,
the women having extended it so widely, but as
to the original use I may say that while the
temperature of the blood is 98 degrees, in a nor-
mal body, the temperature of the bare hand when
the temperature of the air is 50 degrees, is 84 de-
grees, a reduction of 14 degrees from blood heat.
If a knit undershirt and a woolen coat be worn
the temperature varies with each layer, being 70
degrees on the outside of the coat, 75 between the
coat and the shirt and 90 on the skin under the
shirt. This last is eight degrees lower than
blood heat, but the skin temperature is never
so high as the temperature of the blood which
is not exposed to the air. The unclothed body
we see therefore, loses 14 degrees of its heat and
the clothed body eight degrees though, of course,
with additional clothing the temperature might
be increased, though never to blood heat unless
the air around it is at 98 or higher."

A Million Patents

"One day last August the millionth patent
from the United States Patent office was issued
to Francis H. Holton of Akron, Ohio, for a non-
puncturable automobile tire," said a party wear-
ing an auto cap, "and the queer part of the
story is that the very first patent issued
from the office was a device to prevent loco-
motive wheels from slipping on the track. It was
issued to John Ruggles of Thomaston, Maine, in
July, 1836, and shows that whatever else the
other patents may represent, from the first to the
millionth, transportation is still active in the
minds of men and they are still looking for some
better means of getting around. From 1836 to
1893 half a million patents were issued, that is
there have been as many issued in the last
eighteen years as in the fifty-seven preceding.
They are being issued now at the rate of 800 a
week, say over 40,000 a year and the second
million will come a good deal sooner than the
first did. At present more patents are being
issued for automobiles and aeroplanes than in
any other branches of mechanics, over forty-five
hundred having been issued for improvements
in auto tires alone. Electrical appliances are
nearly as numerous and we may expect that the
patent to revolutionize things will be on some
electrical device. It may include application to
autos or airships, but it will be more electricity
than anything else. About 1936 will be the
date for the next millionth and we have plenty of
time to gamble on what it will be."

Wonder Growth of Autos.

"It's a mighty hard to keep track of the statis-
tics of anything growing as fast as the auto-
mobile grows in this country," said the man with
goggles on, "but taking statistics up as far as re-
ported we find that while in 1899 we manu-
factured 3,723 machines valued at \$4,500,000, in
1909, we turned out 127,289, valued at \$165,-
100,000, representing an increase in ten years of
over 4,000 per cent. I guess there never was
anything like it anywhere. Of these machines
over half were made in Michigan; Ohio, Indiana
and New York being the next largest producers.
Gasoline leads as the power, 121,000 being gaso-
line, with 3,600 electricity and 2,400 steam,
with a fair chance that steam will soon drop out
entirely. The business auto, or truck, is far be-
hind the pleasure vehicle, only 3,288 being of
that kind, but they are coming to the front fast.
Of touring cars, 76,000 were built, with 36,000
runabouts. As compared with the manufacture
of other vehicles of transportation the 165 mil-
lion dollars' worth of autos ahead of the 121 mil-
lion dollars' worth of carriages and wagons, the
75 million dollars' worth of ships, the 27 million
dollars' worth of locomotives and the 11 million
dollars' worth of bicycles, the dropped-out bicycle
which one time led the list. But the bicycle
still has its uses and always will have. Ten
years hence the annual output of autos will not
be of much greater value than it now is, but
there will be a large increase in numbers, the
demand for lower-priced cars being on the increase
from many persons who do not yet own cars,
but have need of them and cannot afford the pres-
ent expense of first cost and up-keep."

Concerning Government Jobs

"Most every American citizen some time in his
life has a kind of feeling that he would like to
have a government job," said the man who
looked like he had one, "and he wonders some-
times why he never got it, but when you come to
think that there are 513,854 people of both sexes
holding the places it isn't so much of a won-
der after all. More than half a million people
draw their pay from Uncle Sam and the odd fel-
low keeps right ahead with a fairly full pocket-
book to pay his other expenses. Of these office-
holders, 222,278 are under civil service rules and
can hold on during life or good behavior. These
can only get places after passing examinations
for fitness. The President appoints 9,525 per-
sons without examination. In the grand army
of employees are all kinds and conditions of in-
dividuals and labor. In the army are 80,521 of-
ficers and men and in the navy, 40,832; in the
consular service, 1,415; on the Panama Canal,
28,191 laborers; in the Senate and House, 2,116,
not counting Senators and Representatives; in
the judiciary departments, 4,339. Then there are
over 50,000 in various jobs not under civil ser-
vice. The classified service began under President
Garfield who placed 15,573 positions on the list;
Cleveland added 27,300; Harrison, 42,928; Cleve-
land in his second term added 81,889; McKinley
added 85,150; Roosevelt, 119,916 and Taft thus
far, 4,116. If the 64,000 fourth-class post-office
clerks, who are paid by the postmasters and not
by Uncle Sam, are added to the 513,854 noted,
there will be a grand total of 577,854 persons work-
ing for the government—holding government jobs,
as it is commonly known. In 1816, that is
ninety-five years ago, there were only 6,322 em-
ployees in the government departments. That is
some growing, ain't it? And Uncle Sam has
hardly got a good start, either. Maybe some of
you will get up to the pie counter yet."

RUPTURE CURED

I was helpless and bed-ridden for years from a
double rupture. No truss could hold. Doctors said
I would die if not operated on. I fooled them all
and cured myself by a simple discovery. I will send
the cure free by mail if you write for it.
Capt. W. A. Collings, Box 25, Watertown, N. Y.

A BEAUTIFUL neck, face and

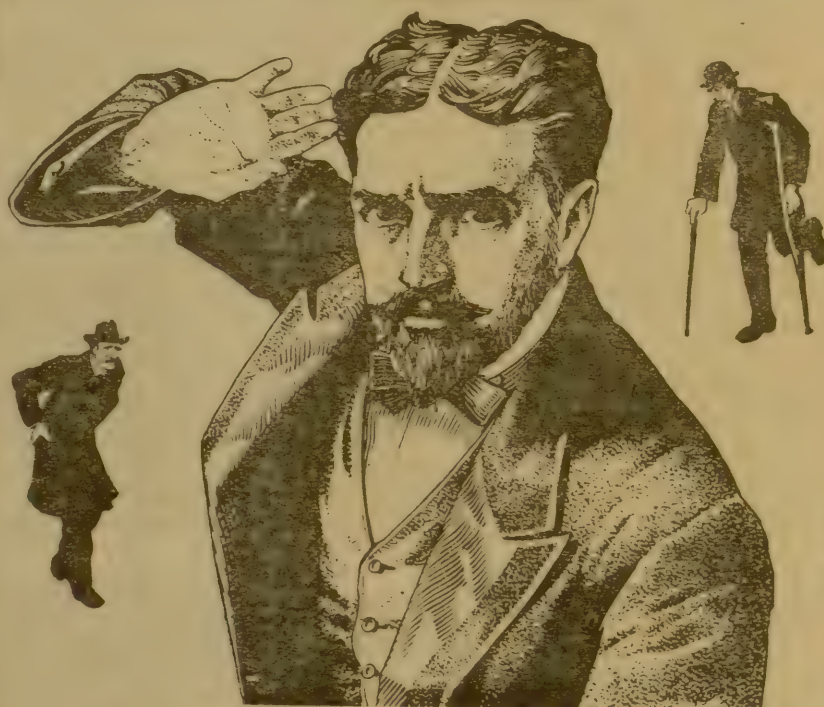
arms Don't pay 50c.
but send 10c. for sealed package
to make your skin soft and white
and cure pimples, freckles, moth,
black head, wrinkles, etc. A per-
fect skin and food powder com-
bined. Warranted absolutely
pure. **TOILET COMPOUND CO., Box 1927, Boston, Mass.**



I Save Kidneys

Cure Backache, Bladder Trouble Rheumatism.

My New Three-Fold LEXOID Treatment Is Now Saving Thousands From That Back
Breaking, Digging, Twisting, Terrible Torturing Agony, Eases Stiff Joints,
Quiets Those Heart-Wringing Rheumatic Pains, Soothes Those
Unbearable Bladder Troubles and Quickly Stops the Pains.



Try My Treatment FREE

Don't spend another needless day of suffering. I will
send you my regular, full, complete, three-fold
Lexoid, combined course of treatment without
a penny's expense, charges paid to try free, just as
my unequaled offer states. I don't mean a
small, worthless sample, or a trial treat-
ment, that you can't tell anything about. I mean a reg-
ular, full treatment, and when I say a full treatment
I mean a full treatment, just as I say. I will send
it to you complete—charges paid—delivered to
your door—ready for you to use—so you can
commence it at once.

My treatment has helped thousands to regain their
health. Those with tired, lame, aching backs, with un-
bearable bladder and urinary troubles, others stiff and
bent with rheumatism—and it has made them well, the
most chronic, severe, long-standing, obstinate cases, after
all else has failed to cure them. Hundreds using my treat-
ment in despair, have gone their way rejoicing. They
were hopeless and it made them well. They were suffer-
ing, and it eased their pains, soothed their aches, bright-
ened their lives and made them happy, and now, I offer
you my wonderful treatment to try free—take it—use
it—if you want to get well.

If you have backache, kidney, bladder trouble
or rheumatism, dizziness, puffing swellings under the
eyes or in the feet and ankles, nervousness, tired and
worn-out feeling, if the urine is light and pale, dark colored
or cloudy, if you make water often, getting up during the
night, if it smart and burns in passing, if there is sedi-
ment or brick dust when it passes, you need my treat-
ment without a minute's delay.

Don't Continue Suffering

My specialty is such diseases. I treat thousands of
cases—helping them after all else has failed. I am suc-
cessful in my life work, because I love it. I love my pro-
fession. My whole mind and soul are wrapped up in it,
and I am happy. You would be happy too, if you were
bringing happiness to thousands of suffering people right
along, as I am now. I love to feel I am helping people to
enjoy life, and I want to help you to see the bright side of
life, and enjoy every minute of true health and hap-
piness.

I want to help you to get well, and be strong
again, so you can work, and walk, and run, and jump
without pain; so you can sleep without disturbance, and
wake up refreshed and rested, able to use every muscle,
nerve, cord and joint of your body, without suffering
misery all the time.

I want you to try my regular full complete treat-
ment. My new scientific course of medicines—harmless,
soothing, healing, penetrating remedies, that reach the
spot, drive away uric acid, cleanse, purify,
strengthen, invigorate and encourage the kid-
neys to properly filter the blood. That stop
the pain, give strength to the nerves, life and
ambition to the mind and body, and do it
quickly, quietly, without loss of time.

My Unequaled Offer

Now here is my offer—I will send you a regular, full,
complete, three-fold Lexoid Course of treat-
ment, without a penny in advance—charges
paid—ready to use—to try free, just as I promise.
Remember, I don't mean a sample, or a trial, or a test,
such as others call proof treatments. I mean a
regular, full, complete course of remedies.
Take it when it comes. Use half of it, and see just

what it does. Then when you know it has helped you,
when you know you are getting better, just send
me a small amount an amount within your easy reach—
an amount you can easily afford to spare—that is all I'll
ask. I know you'll be willing to do your part when it
helps you, and your word is good enough for
me. It will help you quickly. But you are to pay nothing
unless it does. Try it first, pay afterwards when
you know, not before. When you have used half of it,
if you are not satisfied, return what's left and pay
nothing. It doesn't cost you a penny to try my
treatment—I will send it to you, charges paid, take
it, try it, and find out.

A Full Treatment, To Try Free

I am the only one to-day making this offer, sending a
full treatment, on free trial for such diseases. You know
I could not afford to do it, if I did not feel sure it would
help you—if I did not know it would cure. That's why I
can afford to send it first—but you are the one to
decide; you are the one to be the judge. It must help
you, it must satisfy you—before you send a penny.
And you are the one to say. I will take your word.
It's all left right with you yourself. What you say goes.

That's all I care for. I don't want a penny unless it
helps you. I would not take a cent that I am not entitled to.
I believe in giving everyone a square deal—in being
honest—it's my religion—I want to do what's right—that's
why I am making you the broadest, most straight-
forward, fairest, most liberal one-sided offer
ever made. When I have confidence enough in my
treatment to send it to you this way, I know you'll be
willing to try it at my expense—that's all I ask. Don't
send a penny in your letter, not even a postage stamp;
just your name and address and where to send the treat-
ment. Address your letter to me personally, like this:

Dr. H. Michell DeWerth,

909 Lexoid Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

Send No Money; Just This Coupon

DR. H. MICHELL DEWERTH,
909 LEXOID BLDG., CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Please send me your regular, full, complete,
three-fold Lexoid Course of Treatment as you
promised above, all charges paid, TO TRY
FREE. Also your FREE BOOK about Uric
Acid, Kidney, Bladder Trouble and Rheumatism.

My name is.....

Post Office.....

St. or R. F. D.....State.....
Please write name and address plainly.

SPECIAL NOTE. Every suffering reader should write at once for Dr. DeWerth's wonderful treatment. The
remedies he sends have cured thousands. His treatment is different from others, as Lexoid is a new scientific
source of treatment; he alone is its only possessor. The fact that he sends a full treatment, to try free, not only
shows his confidence in the treatment, but also, that he is a fair, just, broad, liberal, honest man as well, and
worthy of the utmost confidence. It seems now that anyone who continues to suffer with this wonderful treat-
ment within their reach, has no right to complain.

Advanced Case of Consumption Cured in Four Months.

Lung-Germine Co.,
Jackson, Mich.

Dear Sirs: I feel it my duty to write you that I have been saved from the grave by Lung-Germine. Every one that saw me thought I would die in a short time, and my doctor told me he could not help me. Analysis of my sputum by the State Board of Health showed that thousands of tuberculosis germs were present. I was having hemorrhages very bad, and fever 103 every day.

I heard of Lung-Germine and began its use. At the end of two months my cough was all gone and I was gaining very fast. I sent another sample of my sputum to be analyzed and the reply came back that there were no germs whatever. When I began Lung-Germine treatment I weighed 95 pounds. I used the treatment four months in all and today I am well and strong. I weigh 115 pounds, and can truthfully say that I am completely cured of consumption by Lung-Germine.

Yours very truly,
MRS. LUCY BUNDY,
1403 E. 33d. Ave., Denver, Colo.

Chronic Bronchitis and Lung Trouble Cured Three Years Ago. No Return of Trouble.

Lung-Germine Co.,
Jackson, Mich.

Dear Sirs:

Replying to your inquiry of some time ago, I am sending herewith statement covering my case. Before beginning the treatment I was in poor health for about one year, my case having been diagnosed by home physicians as chronic bronchitis and lung trouble, although in my opinion it was genuine consumption. I was troubled with night sweats, fever and chills, also had a very severe cough and lost forty pounds in weight in a short time. In March, 1908, I ordered a month's treatment of Lung Germine and after using four bottles I can say that I was cured and am still enjoying good health, none of the former symptoms of my disease having returned.

You will please excuse my long silence, but I did not want to give a testimonial until I was satisfied that the cure was permanent, else I would not have waited three years. I hope that many more sufferers may learn of the treatment, for I believe that the remedy will accomplish what you claim for it.

Respectfully yours,
SAMUEL J. SMITH,
R. R. 6, Elkhart, Ind.

Another Case of Chronic Consumption Cured.

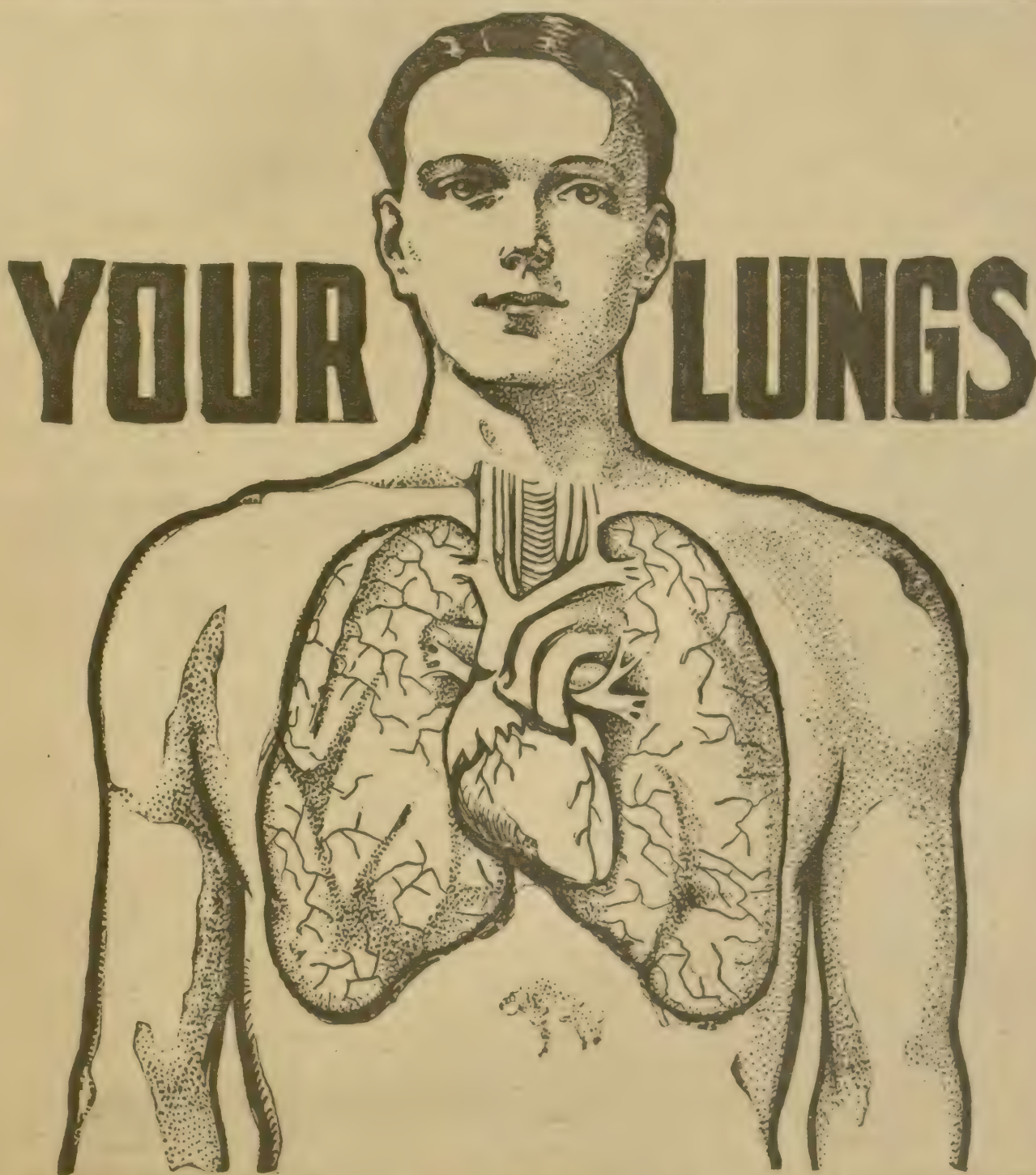
Lung-Germine, Company,
Jackson, Mich.

Dear Sirs: I am more than anxious to have my case spread to all humanity suffering with Consumption, for I am well and hearty today, and three years ago I was taking Lung-Germine.

Well, I will tell you my case as near as I can remember it now. I have had a cough in winter ever since I was a child and it seemed to grow on me, so three years ago this winter I got very bad and was not able to do half of my work. I was so weak I would have to sit down two or three times when making up my bed, and when sweeping my house I would tie a cloth over my mouth to keep from coughing so badly. In February I had three spells of bleeding of the lungs so it scared me a little and we called a doctor. He said I had Consumption and that made me pretty blue. I saw your medicine advertised in the paper, and sent for a sample. My sides were sore and hurt me severely under the shoulder blades, had night sweats so awfully bad and I would chill if the least wind blew on me across the shoulders. I could not lie on my left side for months before I took Lung-Germine, but just as soon as I began to take it I began to gain in weight, my appetite improved and I just got well. I believe to this day that if it had not been for Lung-Germine and God I would have been in my grave long ago, and my husband says so too. I had a local doctor examine my lungs after I quit taking Lung-Germine and he said if I ever had consumption I didn't have it then, so you see my case was cured by Lung-Germine and I recommend it wherever I go. I am willing to do anything to help this medicine do the work, for there is no medicine that has done half so much for me as it has, and it will do the same for others if they will only give it a fair trial. I am pleased to have my statements published and hope it will help someone to believe. Wishing you success, I remain, Yours very truly,

MRS. MAGGIE BRIGGS,
Gower, Mo.

R. F. D. No 3. Box No. 35.



Are Your Lungs Weak or Painful

Do Your Lungs Ever Bleed?
Do You Have Night Sweats?
Have You Pains in Chest and Sides?
Do You Spit Yellow and Black Matter?
Are You Continually Coughing and Hawking?
Do You Have Pains Under the Shoulder Blades?

These are Regarded Symptoms of Lung Trouble and CONSUMPTION

You should take immediate steps to check the progress of these symptoms. The longer you allow them to advance and develop, the more deep seated and serious your condition becomes.

We Stand Ready to Prove to You

absolutely, that Lung-Germine, the German Treatment, has cured completely and permanently case after case of advanced Consumption (Tuberculosis), Chronic Bronchitis, Catarrh of the Lungs, Catarrh of the Bronchial Tubes and other Lung Diseases.

Many sufferers who had lost all hope and who had been given up by physicians have been permanently cured by Lung-Germine.

It is not only a cure for Consumption, but a preventative. If your lungs are merely weak and the disease has not yet manifested itself, you can prevent its development, you can build up your lungs and system to their normal strength and capacity.

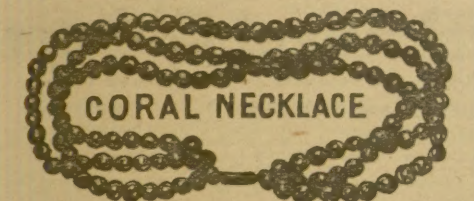
Lung-Germine has cured advanced Consumption, in many cases over four years ago, and the patients remain strong and in splendid health today.

We Will Send You Proof Positive---Proof That Will Convince Any Judge or Jury on Earth

We will gladly send you proof of many remarkable cures; also a FREE TRIAL of Lung-Germine, together with our new book on the treatment and care of Consumption and Lung Trouble.

JUST SEND YOUR NAME

LUNG-GERMINE CO., 90 Rae Block, Jackson, Mich.

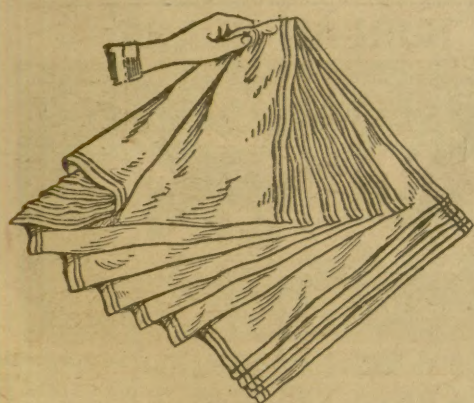


CORAL NECKLACE

Every Girl or Woman delights to possess a real coral necklace. The genuine Neapolitan article is so very expensive that few can afford one. This necklace looks so much like the real thing that many think they are, so perfect is the coloring of this Italian Wonder. It is a triple strand beautifully polished delicate coral pink necklace of just the proper shade to give it the most expensive appearance. We have but a limited number which we can give as premiums to all who get up clubs of 25-15-month subscribers at 25c. each.

Address
COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Yard Long Ready-Made Towels

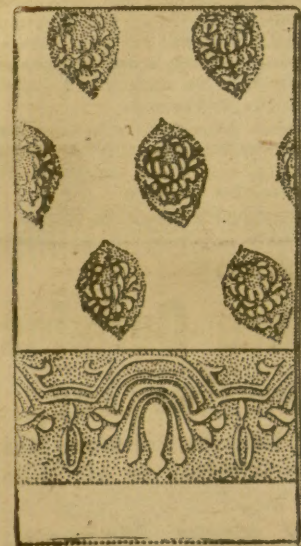


Excellent quality crash, each towel one yard long and ready to use. For kitchen, office, factory and shop use this is a durable, rough-and-ready towel; will wipe well, wear well and wash well. For dishes and hands this is the best; for many purposes about the house good crash toweling finds its use and the good housekeeper always has a supply. The men and boys will enjoy such towels as these. The natural linen color and blue line border make them very attractive. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Club Offer. A club of only two subscriptions to 15 months secures four of these Towels.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Brocade Huckaback Towels

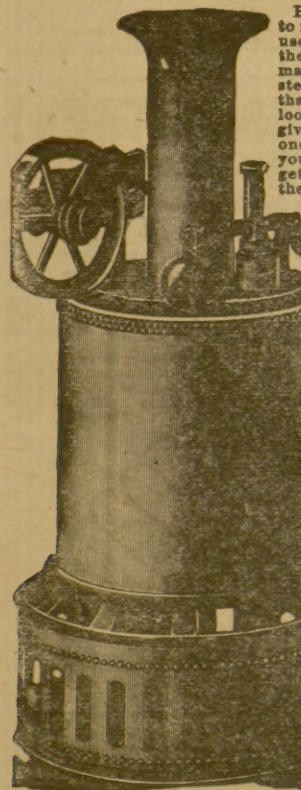


Beautiful new Jacquard design. Large, pure white Towels of excellent quality. Of superior domestic material these Towels in every way are the equal in quality and are an exact imitation of high-grade German Towels selling at 50 cents and 75 cents each. Size 19x35 inches, full bleached are white as snow; a pair of these beautiful towels are a satisfaction to the eye. Not only delightful Toilet Towels but are adapted to use as stand or bureau covers, tray cloths, etc., etc. The illustration gives a splendid idea of the border and figure, shows the design distinctly and we can positively guarantee our satisfaction in use and laundering qualities. Send for one pair at least, then order others.

Club Offer. Send only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months for one pair Brocade Huckaback Towels. We send post-paid.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Real Steam Engine FREE.
EVERY BOY AN ENGINEER.

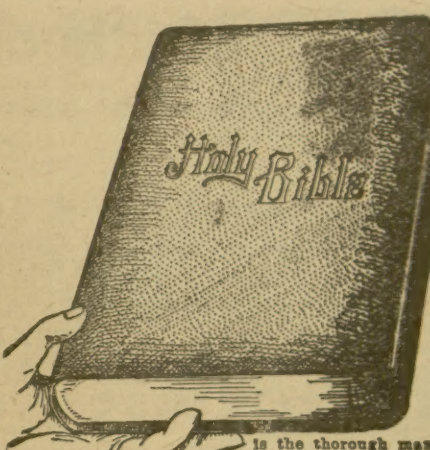


Be an engineer, learn to run an engine, how to use fuel, oil up and blow the whistle, just like the man. You never saw a steam engine in your life that you didn't like the looks of. Now here we give you a chance to have one all your own that you put on a table and get up steam and blow the whistle and watch the wheels go round fast or slow just as you wish, and every lad you know will be green with envy.

A Genuine Yankee Engine has the following parts and can be taken down and put up as often as you wish: Cylinder with Spring, Balance Wheel, Drive Wheel, Smoke Stack, Whistle Complete, Boiler with Heater, stands 8 inches high, highly finished in enamel and nickel, a Jim-dandy engine and guaranteed way up. With this engine you can run all kinds of toy machines you can buy or make for yourself with spoils, etc. Great fun to make toy machinery string for belting. We want every young man to have an engine; the practical side of life is well demonstrated to any youth that interests himself; so we give for the balance of the season and to get new subscriptions one engine as a reward for sending us a club of only 4-15-month subscribers to COMFORT at the special subscription rate of 25 cents.

This small club amounting to \$1.00 pays for the full subscription for the 4 addresses and obtains a prize Engine delivered prepaid by mail or express carefully packed and fully warranted.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**



is the thorough manner in which they are bound and finished. The soft padded covers are the same as in FULL MOROCCO BIBLES costing \$10.00 each. Please do not send for this Bible expecting to receive a great, big book by express; we offer the FAMILY BIBLE elsewhere. This small Bible is for the same purposes, but is more convenient to carry about. Knowing we shall receive second orders from those who send for one of these Bibles, we are making a specially attractive introduction proposition below.

OUR OFFER. We will send you one of these Holy Bibles as a free premium gift only four 15 mo. subscribers to this magazine at 25 cents each, delivered post-paid to your home.

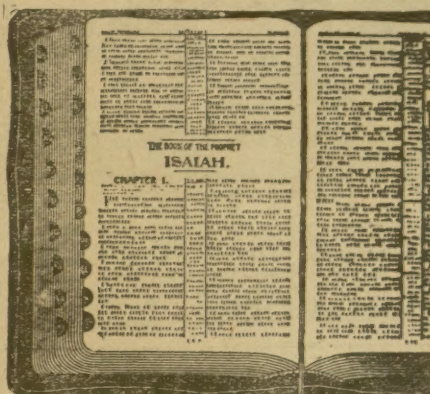
COMPLETE HOLY BIBLE.

After repeated requests from our thousands of readers and club workers, we are prepared to furnish a COMPLETE HOLY BIBLE, in a smaller size than our regular Family Bible. The new offering is indeed a perfect charm; a thoroughly complete Bible, containing over 350 pages, with nine colored maps; soft binding, half padded, round corners, finished with red edges, is five and a half inches long, three and a half inches wide and nearly an inch thick, weighing half a pound. It is a thorough Bible with full and complete books of the old and new testaments. For Sunday School workers, teachers and students, or for a convenient new Bible, this is an unequalled opportunity to secure a big little Bible that will please. By co-operating with a Bible and a Bindery, we were enabled to dictate terms and agreed to purchase an enormous quantity during the next year if a low price would be made, in order that we might give our best of friends and readers at least one grand opportunity to procure one or more Bibles for their own use or as gifts. Knowing well enough that we shall receive many second orders from our first purchasers. Modern machinery and skilled workmen produce these Bibles in quantities made in the highest order of workmanship. Each and every Bible is sent with a guarantee that it is perfect in each and every detail; and what will please you most in which they are bound and finished. The soft padded covers are the same as in FULL MOROCCO BIBLES costing \$10.00 each.

Flexible Morocco BIBLE FREE ILLUSTRATED

With 32 full-page half tone pictures and 16 full-page colored maps-GOLD EDGES

Containing the King James, Version of the Old and New Testaments.



These Bibles are unsurpassed for clear print, extra quality of paper, handsome flexible bindings, superior workmanship. Our illustrations show the Bible in various positions; laying flat open you see just how distinct is the type, the thumb index and the expansive leather binding, also the closed Bible with elastic band which protects the same when not in use, and in lower right-hand corner we show how the Bible may be rolled absolutely without injury.



Also New Helps to the Study of the Bible

Prepared by the Most Eminent Authorities

The Sunday School Teacher's use of the Bible. How to study the Bible. The Christian Worker and his Bible. Scripture Texts for students and workers. Forty Questions and Answers from the Word of God. Calendar for Daily Reading of the Scriptures, by which the Bible may be read through in one year. The Chronology and History of the Bible and its Related Periods. Table of Prophetic Books. Period intervening between the Age of Malachi, (450 B. C.) and the Birth of Christ. Summary of the Gospel Incidents and Harmony of the Four Gospels.

This is a splendid opportunity to obtain a practical, useful Bible, a new edition in a beautiful, durable and flexible leather binding, with gold stamped title on back and cover.

CLUB OFFER.

For a club of only ten subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for 15 Months we send one of these above described Bibles, post-paid.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Plain Band Baby Ring

In preference to our Baby, Pet and Darling engraved Baby Rings many prefer a plain gold band. In response to this demand we have just added this new number to our premium list and now offer you a real gold ring for Baby that is dignified and beautiful, will wear indefinitely and give entire satisfaction.

Club Offer. Send a club of only two new subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months. We will send the ring in a cute box, post-paid.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

STONE SIGNET GOLD RING

Introduced this season for first time and at once displaces old style initial signet ring. Stone mountings of every kind are now worn exclusively. Nearly all rings except plain band now are given the added touch of a stone of some kind. This engraved ring has artistic lines, is heavy and durable, a new style in every way, enhanced in beauty by the single imitation chip diamond setting in center. This is a swell ring for young ladies, or old; it can be worn as a man's ring with taste. One of, if not the best of our new rings.

Club Offer. Send only four subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, and give finger size. We will send ring at once in an attractive ring box.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

GENTLEMAN'S STONE RING

The newest design and one of the most popular man's ring yet marketed. In a flat Belcher setting, is mounted an imitation diamond. Not much to say in blank type, but the ring cannot be described fittingly nor its brilliancy displayed. The unique and finishing touch to this mounting is in the treatment of the stone. The top or front is cut with many facets, as a regular diamond, then the back is treated or coated with real platinum, the result is a brilliancy and sparkle only equalled by a genuine diamond of tremendous cost. A genuine diamond is not more brilliant, only more expensive. This is a desirable ring, sturdy in make up and appearance, a ring any gentleman will be proud to wear, a most excellent gift ring.

Club Offer. For a club of only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months we will send one of these Gentlemen's Belcher setting stone rings, in a lined ring box, post-paid. Send size or finger measurement.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Solid Gold Wedding Ring

The genuine article. No sham, no substitute, this is a genuine Gold Ring, as such we advertise and guarantee it. Our illustration merely shows the general style, a wide, heavy band ring for either ladies or gentlemen, it is in proper size and style today. If you are about to be, or are married, and require a real wedding ring this is an unusual opportunity to procure the correct thing in a ring and at a reasonable cost. We fully and we unequivocally guarantee this Wedding Ring to be genuine solid gold, not rolled, plated or gold shell or other ingenious imitation. Your money back at any time, so don't go to store-keepers and pay enormous profits but avail yourself of our

Club Offer. For a club of only eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you one of these genuine Solid Gold Wedding Rings in a plush-lined ring box. Send finger measurement.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

Fancy Ohased and Plain Band Gold Shell Finger Rings.

Newest designs of chasing and correct widths. For persons of all ages; a refined and dignified ring worn on all occasions. They are 14K gold plate, will wear a long time. **CLUB OFFER.** For 25-15-month subscribers at 25 cents each, we will send you your choice of one of these rings. Send finger measurement.

Gold Band Wedding Ring.

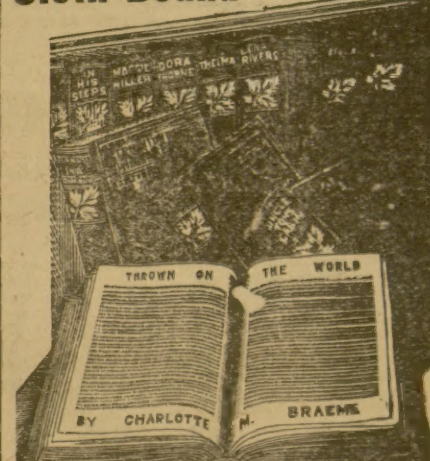
A suitable wedding ring most used for the occasion. It is a heavy band ring of 14K gold plate wears long and satisfactorily. Many years have they been used as wedding rings, the quality is the best and you may be assured you will not regret having selected one if you order today.

CLUB OFFER. We send one in a plush lined box free of all expense for a club of four 15-month subscribers at 25 cents each. Send finger measurement.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

FREE BEST BOOKS FREE

Cloth Bound



Marie Corelli, Augusta J. Evans, Charles Garvice, Mary J. Holmes, G. A. Henty, Charles M. Sheldon, Charlotte M. Braeme, Mrs. Southworth.

The works of the popular authors above mentioned, also a large number of other popular authors' best efforts, are included in our new list of gift books. From an assortment of over 400 titles we have selected the most popular and desirable works of these famous American and European Authors.

Each book is printed on good quality paper, from large, clear type, is 7 1/2 inches long, 5 wide and varies in thickness, all one inch or more, and weigh about one pound each. Cloth Bindings are genuine Linen Cloth of several attractive and striking colors, especially made for this series. Each cover has an ornamental design, shows in the illustrations, and the titles are done in genuine gold and two-colored ink. Each cover design is by some well-known artist, and the high quality of this alone makes the outer appearance of each book most attractive, as it gives the book a rich appearance for shelving or when lying on the table. Taken all in all this series of books is an excellent edition and we are pleased to have the opportunity to place them before you at this particular season of the year and at such liberal terms.



- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Augusta J. Evans</p> <p>Roman of Two Worlds
Thelma
Yondetta
Wormwood</p> <p>Charlotte M. Braeme</p> <p>Ball of Lyras
Broken Wedding Ring, The
Dear Thomas</p> <p>T. S. Arthur</p> <p>Ten Nights in a Bar Room
Mrs. Henry Wood
East Lynne
Harriet Beecher Stowe
Uncle Tom's Cabin
Emma E. D. E. Southworth
Changed Brides
Bride's Fate
Sequel to Changed Brides
Cruel as the Grave
Deserted Wife
Hidden Hand, Part 1
Capitola, Part 2 of Hidden Hand
Ismael
Mystery of Dark Hollow
Self-Rained, Sequel to Ismael
Trifles for Her Life
Sequel to Cruel as the Grave
Allworth Abbey
Simple Life
Charles Wagner
Horatio Alger, Jr.
Adrift in New York
Andy Gordon</p> | <p>Marie Corelli</p> <p>Duke's Secret
Earle's Atone ment, The
Evelyn's Folly
Her Only Son
Her Mother's Sin,
Mad Love, A
Prince Charlie's Daughter
Shadow of a Sin
Struggle for a King</p> <p>Mrs. May Agnes Fleming</p> <p>Magdalen's Vow
The Queen of the Isle
The Rival Brothers</p> <p>Mary J. Holmes</p> <p>Thomas and Orange Blossoms
Thrown on the World
Which Loved Him Best
Wife in Name Only</p> <p>Alfred Russel Wallace</p> <p>Winsty-Three
Not Like Other Girls
Oliver Twist
Our Beasts
Phantom Hiccup
Pilgrim's Progress
Robert Hardy's Seven Days
Robinson Crusoe
The Scarlet Letter
Spy, The
Stepping Heavenward
Swiss Family Robinson
Tale of Two Cities
Tom Brown's School Days
Vanity Fair
Wide, Wide World
Wren by Walting
With Lee in Virginia</p> <p>The Laurel Series</p> <p>Airy Fairy Lillian
Arundel Mottis, The
Awakening of Mary Fenwick
Dorovan
For Lillias
Gold Elsie
Harriet's Choice
In the Golden Days
Lady of the Rabbits</p> | <p>Charles M. Sheldon</p> <p>In His Steps</p> <p>Charles Garvice</p> <p>Elaine
Farmer Holt's Daughter
Her Heart's Desire
Her Ransom
Leslie's Loyalty
Fashion Flower
Twist Smile and Tear
Wanted Love, A
Willful Maid
Woven on Fate's Loom</p> <p>Ralph Connor</p> <p>Black Rock</p> | <p>Young Adventurer, The
Young Outlaw
Young Salesman</p> <p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>Asop's Fables
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Andersen's Fairy Tales
Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush
Black Beauty
East Lynne
Evangelina
First Victim
Flower Fables
Grimm's Fairy Tales
Hardy Norseman
Ivanhoe
Jane Eyre
John Halifax
Lady of the Lake
Lampighter
Last of the Mohicans
Last Days of Pompeii
Little Minister
Longfellow's Poems
Marble Faun, The
Misch Chiefs
Nora Side</p> | <p>Darkness and Daylight
Dora Deane
Edith Lyle's Secret
English Orphans
Evelyn's Mistake
Family Pride
Homestead on the Hillside
Hugh Worthington
Ladies Homestead, The</p> <p>Mary St. John</p> <p>Minister's Woe, The
Mohawks, The
My Guardian
Old Man's Secret
Old Myddleton's Money
Only the Governor
Queenie's Whim
Second Wife, The
Under Two Flags
We Two</p> <p>[The Oxford Series]</p> <p>Arabian Nights Entertainments
Cast Up by the Sea
Christmas Stories
Daniel Boone, I, of
David Crockett, Life of
Deerslayer, The
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
Grandfather's Chair
Green Mountain Boys
Gulliver's Travels
Homes of the Seven Castles
Kidnapped
Kit Carson, Life of
Pathfinder, The
Samantha at Saratoga
Sketch Book, The</p> |
|---|---|--|--|---|

Subscription Offer. For a club of three 15-month subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we send you two books free, or a club of 4 at 25 cents each, we send you four books you may select. For a club of 7 at 25 cents each, we send five books of your selection. We now have every book listed in stock and can fill orders same day received. Every book is fully guaranteed in every respect and we send all orders at our own expense. Just think what a chance for book clubs.

Address **COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.**

LADIES' GOLD SHELL RINGS

YOU CAN GET ONE FOR A CLUB OF ONLY FOUR



The delight of every young lady is in having handsome finger rings of the latest style and finish set with three handsome stones. A large center stone with smaller ones on either side same as shown in the illustration. These are Gold shell Rings you may be proud of and they will wear well and not turn; they look like gold, wear like gold, and will stand gold acid tests. These settings are very rich and look refined and just as attractive as rings costing much money. We have three styles of settings and will allow you to make your own selections, Opal, Emerald and Ruby, with the finest imitation chip diamonds which add great brilliancy and set off the whole ring. We guarantee the sparkle of these stones to be quite equal to genuine diamonds costing hundreds of dollars, and are always behind this guarantee. Each stone is set separately in Tiffany style and is sent in a nice Ring Box, plush-lined, just the ornament for your room and keeps the ring clean and from getting lost when not in use.

Opal. These Rings are Free. We bought these rings to give away and the following offers are liberal enough to enable every reader to own one at once. Mothers should have one. The boys should get one for their sweethearts. They make a swell present. We will give one ring Free for a club of only four 15 mo. subscribers at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Emerald.



WE GIVE THIS WATCH

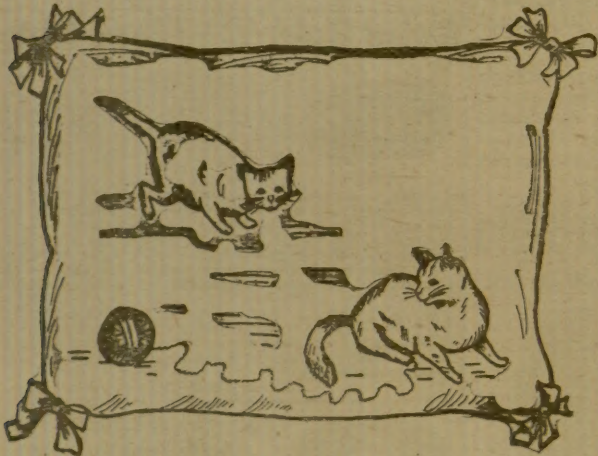
For a Club of Five.

Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but for practical everyday use they are no better timekeepers. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get a club of 5 subscribers to COMFORT at our special subscription price of 25 cents for 15 months. Do this, sending us the money with the names, and we will send COMFORT to each subscriber and we will send you the watch to reward you. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get subscriptions and send us NOW at once, we will also send you a nice chain.

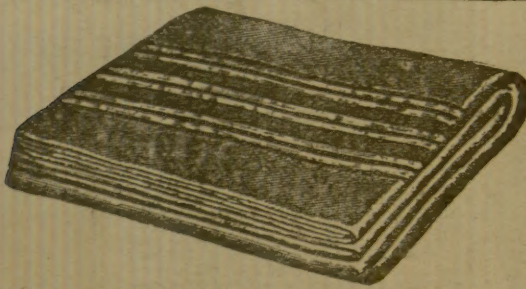
Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A CAT PILLOW IN A COMBINATION OF

HAND PAINTING AND OUTLINE EMBROIDERY



Is a Cute, Pleasing Design of Frolicking Kittens, a subject which is sure to amuse the young and old and add to the cheerfulness of any room. Combination means that when you receive this pillow the design will be hand painted in a beautiful blending of colors and you are to outline the whole design in a dark shade of mercerized cotton. Painted on Art Pillow Cloth of an exquisite green or softest shade of yellow, this outline embroidery produces an effect that can be had in no other way. It will "bring out" the playful attitude of the Kittens, giving a "raised" appearance which greatly adds to the beauty of the pillow which is 32x32 inches square. Send a new 15-month 25-cent subscription with 5 cents extra, 30 cents in all, and we will give you the above described pillow. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.



A Soft, Warm White Blanket

well made and well finished. Size 55 inches wide and 72 inches long, of good weight, supplied with the borders worked in fancy colors on the white ground. Large, warm, comfortable blankets for standard size beds. Regardless of advance in costs of raw cotton we have bought a quantity of these blankets at unusually low prices and are certain they are of unusual quality and exceptionally well made. Think of this big warm blanket on your own bed or laying on the shelf for use when needed what a feeling of satisfaction it gives one. **CLUB OFFER.** For only eight subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send you either postpaid or express free one of these 55x72 White Blankets and you may have either blue or white border.

FOR MOTHER'S SHOULDERS OR THE BABY



We have bought in this connection one of the very best things in the way of a warm wrap for the Baby or for the Mother to use in and about the home in size, and they come in two colors, soft duff pink and blue stripes over white, at either end are wider stripes and the blue one has both the wider stripes and a bit of variegated color at the ends. These small blankets are something very new; in all the city stores where shown they are selling rapidly. We could not resist offering this quick; without illustration our description must convey to you what a splendid little blanket this is and how useful it will be about the Baby; awake or asleep it can be used as a wrap or blanket, is splendid as a covering for carriage or as a shoulder throw it cannot be equalled by anything hand knit or made up. The design is finished with buttonhole stitch and the whole idea is just splendid and we know that wherever seen others will be wanted.

Club Offer. To introduce them we will at first offer one free, post-paid for only two subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, or for a club of ten subscriptions at 25 cents each, we will send both the large and small Blankets. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Me.

A Speaking and Sleeping DOLL FREE

Can Say PAPA and MAMA
I am the Prettiest, Daintiest, Sweetest
Lace-Dressed Doll you ever saw

Observe my Beautiful Raiment. Lace-trimmed Gown and Hat. Openwork Hose, Low Shoes with Buckle and all sorts of frills and furbelows.

This newest premium is a Special Extra Large Size Imported French Doll, over a foot tall, and can be made to sleep and speak. To be exact, she measures sixteen and one-half inches from the sole of her feet to the top of her lace hat, requiring a big box eighteen inches long to pack her in. It is one of the most beautifully dressed Dolls ever given away as a premium for so few subscriptions or for such little effort as we require.

This is a wonder Doll and will positively please every little or big girl who receives her from us. Her pretty head is made of bisque, with long, natural curls; her handsome costume of lustrous silk finish; latest fancy trimmed, lace-bordered MAT; lace-trimmed underwear; openwork stockings, dainty low shoes with buckles, etc., etc. She is dressed throughout in the latest Doll fashion.

Our illustration does not do her justice; we can only show about how splendid she is. It would be impossible to show up her charms and graces, but you get a very good idea, and will be delighted when you receive and open the package and see her; and to see her is to love her, she is such a GRAND DOLL BEAUTY.

CLUB OFFER.

For only six 15-months subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send free and post-paid, one of these magnificent, large Dressed Dolls.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Cathedral Angel Chimes

Three Sweet Musical Bells. A New and Striking Musical Novelty
Suitable both for Ornament and Amusement all the year round.

Cathedral Angel Chimes consist of 5 beautiful Angels with trumpets, 3 candle sticks with 6 beautiful colored wax candles, 3 tuned bells and a turbine motor. Surmounting the whole, imposed over the turbine, the Herald Angel with trumpet, the machine being twelve inches high and six inches broad. It is made of bright silver nickel-plated metal, the turbine is finished in blue enamel with gilt stars. Then we have an added feature in our New Chimes; under the three musical bells is a metal tablet upon which in eight or more colors is the beautiful picture of the Birth of Christ in a Manger. The effect is as though it were hand painted, and is very beautiful and inspiring.

The Chimes are so constructed that when the candles are lighted the turbine revolves, the rising hot air from the candles giving the power that causes the turbine to revolve, the pendants strike gently on the bells in succession, and as the bells differ in size, sweet musical tones are produced. The effect is wonderful and unusually pleasing; not only is the soft tinkle of the bells a delight to the ear, but the brilliancy of the reflection of the candle flames on the highly polished silver-like metal parts lends delight to the occasion and entrances the old or the young. A set should be in every home, to be used at all times or for decorative purposes at Christmas or any other time, especially suitable for table decoration in sitting or dining-room, making a splendid centerpiece, and one never tires of the sweet chimes tinkling. Being entirely of metal, they are absolutely unbreakable, can be used indefinitely by renewing candles from time to time, as used for Birthdays, Parties, Balls, Christmas, or other festivities. Each is packed in a separate box with full instruction how to put together and operate. Any one can do it and we warrant every machine to work to satisfaction.

Club Offer. For a club of only four 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send you a complete set of Cathedral Angel Chimes, postpaid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

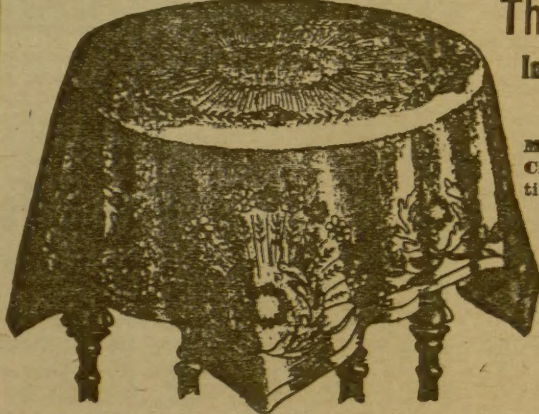
SIDEBOARD AND BUREAU SCARF



Also two nine-inch dollies to match. This scarf design is stamped on fine quality material 60 inches in length, 18 inches wide, over ONE THOUSAND SQUARE INCHES; the largest pattern outfit we ever offered. In addition are two large dolly designs making a complete bureau or sideboard set that will please our lady readers. The edge of the scarf is to be worked in buttonhole stitch, the design in the center to be embroidered in long and short outline, stitch or solid. The two dollies may be worked the same; this makes a complete set that will be very useful and gain the envy and admiration of your friends. We send a circular describing many other patterns; all are free to you. **Special Offer:** For a club of two 15-months subscriptions to COMFORT we send this stamped pattern free. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

This Exquisite Table Cover

In a Beautiful Pattern Especially Designed
Outline for Embroidery



Made from a new material called Yachting Cloth with real Irish Linen finish, in a beautiful shade of light brown that will harmonize with all shades of embroidery silk or cotton and is especially designed for table covers. The stamping includes a centerpiece as well as a border of an unusually graceful design and is one yard square.

For two 15-mo. subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each will be given this beautiful cover, which can be used in any room. It is worth working for. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A PAIR OF

Nottingham Lace Curtains

Each Curtain Nine Feet Long.

This Most Beautiful and Elegant Premium Has
Just Been Added for Selection to All Who
Send a

Club of Only 5 New Names.



The Curtains are full width and just what anyone needs to adorn the home with. Everyone of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of Lace Curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as \$6.00 or \$8.00 a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid.

SPECIAL OFFERS. If you will send us a club of only 5 subscriptions to COMFORT at 25 cents each for 15 months, we will send one pair of Curtains to you as a free premium. A club of only nine 25-cent fifteen month subscriptions secures two pairs and we send three pairs for only 14 subscriptions at 25c. each. COMFORT goes to each subscriber 15 months and Curtains to you. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

THIS BEAUTIFUL NARCISSUS ASSORTMENT

EXTRA HEAVY SILVER PLATED WARE.

Now offered in eleven different pieces comprising an elaborate and complete assortment. Especially desirable Wedding Gift, equally as desirable to all housekeepers.

Unless you have some of the Spoons in this pattern you have no idea how beautiful it is, with the soft, gray frosted handle with high polished blades or bowls. You may think you have enough silverware now; even if you have a variety there is always use for more, especially such very beautiful ware as we now offer you, and COMFORT is such a great monthly, people readily subscribe, so you actually will obtain these Spoons for but a moment's time.

The combination of twenty-six pieces in the Narcissus pattern, French Gray Finish enables you to have all the assortment for complete table set, or as few pieces as you require. The lovely pattern is a very heavily embossed design, in relief, ornamenting the entire length of each article, on both sides.

For every-day service and special occasions this durable ware embodies every requirement and although delightfully attractive will stand constant use.



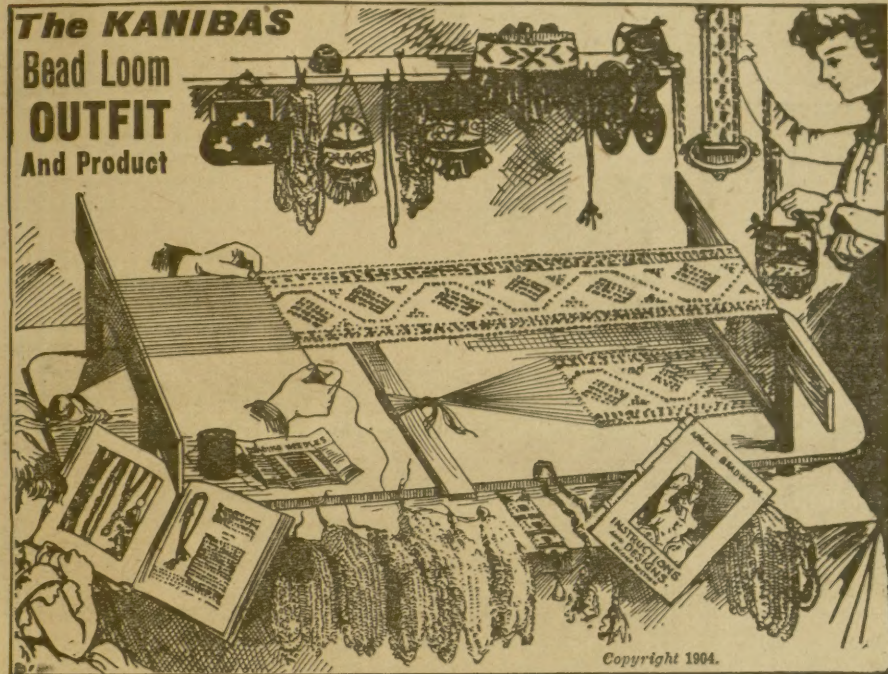
Club Offers. We have arranged the following schedule of club offers, enabling you to obtain free as much of the assortment as you require, if not all. For only two 25c. subscriptions to COMFORT, we will send your choice: Six Teaspoons, Two Tablespoons, a Dessert-spoon, Sugar Shell, or Butter Knife. For only three subscriptions to COMFORT, we will send your choice: either a Gravy Ladle, Pie Knife, Cold Meat Fork, or Berry Spoon. For a club of twelve subscriptions to COMFORT, a set of Six Knives and Six Forks. A club of thirty subscriptions to COMFORT for the entire assortment of 26 pieces. All must be 25c. fifteen-months subscriptions. Carefully look over the different articles and decide which ones you desire most then first send in a small trial club for sample after that we are sure you will get the entire assortment when you find how nice the goods are. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FREE for Only Six Subscribers
I Can Say Papa and Mama and also Close My Eyes

14,000 BEADS FREE LOOM OUTFIT

PROFITABLE BEADWORK AT HOME MAKING BAGS, CHAINS, NECKLACES, PURSES, BELTS, COLLARS AND CUFFS, SHIRT-WAIST SETS, SLIPPERS, WATCH CASES, FOR WATCH CHAINS, CARD CASES, POCKETBOOKS, WRIST BAGS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, ETC., ETC.

The KANIBAS Bead Loom OUTFIT And Product



Copyright 1904.

The great revival in Art Beadwork has brought about a Wonderful Loom Invention for easily doing this fascinating work. The product of the Penobscot Indians of Maine as well as the Apache Tribes, has made them famous the world over. For thousands of years Venice has produced wonderful beads. Columbus first brought articles of Venetian Beadwork to America that completely fascinated the early settlers. Now the most dainty and artistic costumes are not complete without a dash of beautiful color such as can only be gotten from these same exquisite shades of artistically arranged beads. That beadwork is entirely practical can be proven by its thousands of years of usefulness. No art in existence has given the world more profitable employment or genuine happiness than Bead working; the articles that are now being made with beads sell for many times the cost of material—all that is necessary is a little time and patience for any one to become proficient in the art. With the invention of this Bead Loom, the mechanical possibilities of which are nearly unlimited, the simplicity of weaving the beads is at once astonishing and rapid. The old-fashioned work was mostly done by hand, and at a time when the miscount of even a single bead would throw the pattern out all over the design. All of our grandmothers' beautiful designs can now be reproduced with half the expenditure of energy and nerve force. Another wonderful help is the use of the regular Bead Needle. These are long and slender and have a very long eye built especially for holding a lot of beads at one time and doing the work easily and rapidly. The Kanibas Loom as illustrated shows the method of working, the hands holding the needle and thread, giving an idea of the progress of the work in making a Belt or Woven Chain. The outfit consists of 1 Kanibas Loom, 5 Bunches Black Beads, 2 Bunches Green Beads, 3 Bunches White Beads, 2 Bunches Pink Beads, 2 Bunches Blue Beads, 1 Paper containing a dozen Special Bead Needles, 1 Gold Swivel Snap for chain, 1 Spool Special Strong Bead Thread, and the Apache Bead-worker of Instruction and Designs. This great book was gotten up especially to show some of the wonderful possibilities of Artistic Beadwork. It has a beautiful photograph cover and contains seventy-five different cuts and designs in popular beadwork, giving full easy detail instructions just what color beads to use and how to work them; it shows some of the Lady Washington Bags illustrated from these old Beadwork articles themselves that cannot now be bought for hundreds of dollars. It shows how to make all sorts of Chains, Bags, Collars, Cuffs and Dress Trimmings, Purses, etc., etc., giving full directions for all designs. All the popular Secret Order Emblems can be worked with great effect in beads for Bob Chains, etc., and this book shows Masonic, Odd Fellow, Royal Arcanum, and other styles with directions. Some of the Bag designs shown bring \$12.00 or \$15.00 when worked out and the extra beads cost so little that very large profits come from doing the work. It only requires your time to make a lot of money doing these designs. You get these Fourteen Thousand Beads with the Loom and Book of Directions absolutely Free. In fact, the entire outfit above described absolutely Free. So popular and instructive has beadwork now become in teaching color schemes that the educational boards have adopted Loom Bead instruction and introduced it in all large city schools.

Club Offer. For a club of only five 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will deliver the entire outfit free. Get up your club now. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SPLENDID THREE-PIECE SILVER SET

The Smaller Round Dish for Candy, Olives, Nuts, Whipped Cream or Pickles.



The Seven-Inch Dish for Salad, Fruit, Nuts and Candy.



The illustration represents only the general style of the three-piece set. One gets no idea from this of the unusual beauty, nor the effectiveness of this ruffled silver effect. The whole set or single pieces will prove exceptionally useful. A cream pitcher, sugar bowl and the large dish make up the set. The large dish may be used for berries, fruit, nuts, whipped cream, jelly, preserves or other purposes, or if preferred as an ornament for the table or mantle, but the pitcher will be useful daily on the dining table, or may be kept for best, and the same with the sugar bowl, which will oftentimes be of use for other things, such as olives, nuts or whipped cream. These sets are unusually large, full size, practical size, the big bowl is seven inches in diameter, four inches high, with capacity of at least three pints; the sugar and cream pitcher are of just the right size, have four feet and handles. Each piece is gold lined and will positively wear for years and give entire satisfaction. Send only 15-months subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each for this Gold Lined Silver Set. Club Offer. of three pieces, which will be sent by mail or express prepaid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



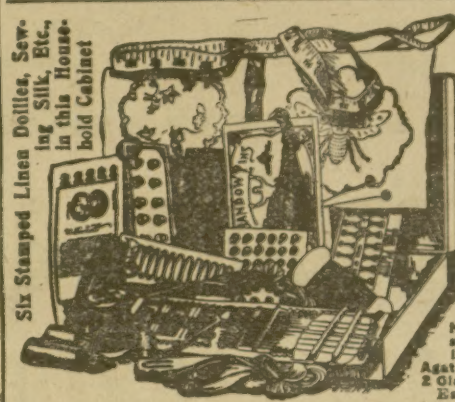
Adjustable Band Bracelet

for that length of time under our guarantee. Our lady readers will enjoy this Bracelet, and, as it is a new style and new idea this season, you all want one right off while they are fashionable. We are making extra special inducements for clubs, so we have purchased this Bracelet in such quantities we are enabled to offer them to you now at a tremendous bargain rate.

Club Offer. Send us only one new 15-months subscription to COMFORT at 25 cents for one of these beautiful Bracelets free. It positively must be a new subscription. Send 10 cents extra, 25 cents in all, if for your own sub. or a renewal. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

WARRANTED TO WEAR FIVE YEARS

Will Perfectly Fit Largest or Smallest Wrist. As shown in illustration, it is a beautifully engraved band of gold one quarter inch wide, has three adjustment slots and a pin. The pin may be put in first slot for largest size, in last slot for smallest size and in center for medium. It is a simple, practical adjustment that does just what it is intended to do and does it well. You cannot lose this Bracelet. Warranted for five years; meaning, the gold finish is durable as new style and new idea this season, you all want one right off while they are fashionable. We are making extra special inducements for clubs, so we have purchased this Bracelet in such quantities we are enabled to offer them to you now at a tremendous bargain rate.

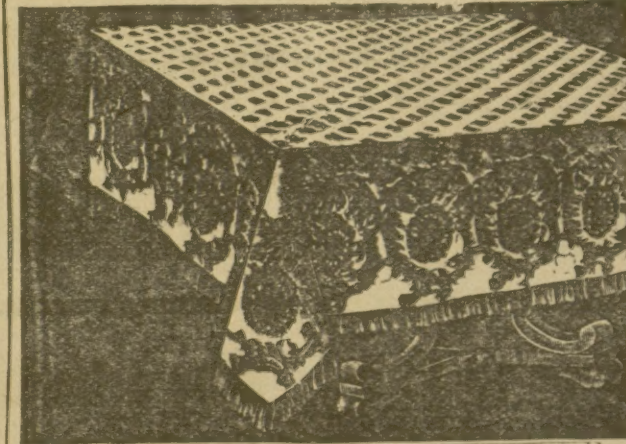


Complete Household Cabinet

Containing over two hundred different articles always useful in and around the home, particularly to the mother who must do all the making and mending. The assortment of articles has been put together, after repeated calls for such an outfit, in convenient arrangement to provide the great variety of really useful and much wanted articles most likely to be needed. Each article is of full size and good quality and is such as you would usually purchase at any store. The following list of contents of each package will at once convince you we have made a good selection and in the right quantities.

- 1 Card 1 Aluminum Thimble, standard size and weight. 1 Card with 3 doz. best quality Shosobutons. 1 Paper with 2 doz. best Hooks and Eyes. 1 Card Household Mending Cotton. 1 Linen Tape Measure, 60 in. long. 1 Paper with 400 best quality toilet Pins. 1 Card with 1 doz. Safety Pins. 1 Card with 4 doz. Pearl Lintle Agate Buttons. 1 Tube with 60 Invisible Hairpins. 1 Paper best quality straight Hairpins. 6 Skeins of 5 yds. each Embroidery Cotton, assorted colors. 6 Stamped Linen Dollies in assorted Designs. 4 Papers of Needles, Sharps, sizes 5, 6, 7, 8/10. 7 Ladies' Shawl Pins, assorted sizes, glass heads. 1 Tape Bodkin. 4 Darning Needles. 10 Embroidery Needles. 1 Glove Buttoner. 1 Key-Ring. 1 Doz. Agate Collar Buttons. 1 Doz. Best Kid Cutlers. 1 Spool Linen Thread. 2 Glass-head Hat Pins. 1 Pair Shoelaces. 1 Pair Corset Laces. Each Cabinet packed ready for shipment and positively contains all articles as described. A nice present for mother.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only four 15-mo subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we send this Cabinet of useful articles, post-paid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Imported Scotch Turkey Red Cloth.

A superior quality genuine Scotch imported Turkey red damask table-cloth, fringed. These table covers are of heavy weight, closely woven material, with heavy fringe, and the designs are all up-to-date floral effects that are very attractive, guaranteed fast color. Size 60 x 60 inches.

Club Offer. Send only six subscriptions to COMFORT at 25c. each for 15 months and receive one of these Scotch Turkey Red Table-Cloths. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A Silken Shower from a Necktie Factory. A Big Lot of Real Silk, also REMNANTS Plush and Stamped Satin FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK.

ART in needlework is on the advance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin—"CRAY QUILT" making is again VERY POPULAR. We are sure we have a bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright, handsome, odd-shaped, and pretty colored goods accumulate very fast at all NECKTIE FACTORIES; the styles were never so bright and pretty as they have been the past season and they are now burdened with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have thousands of pieces of silk and satin on hand which we are going to give you a big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into sofa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. Our packages contain from 19 to 100 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get our great monthly and a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these



pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy, art, and needlework. Many ladies sell oddies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample subscription lot now for only 30c. **Grand Offer:** If you order AT ONCE, we will give you several rich, bright and beautiful stamped satin pieces; each piece contains nine square inches and being stamped by hand with a graceful design for embroidery, is a big bargain. **Five Skeins Embroidery Silks Free.** In order to work your stamped satin and other pieces, we also send absolutely FREE, five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you ORDER ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, so make this liberal offer besides giving you a large and elegant piece of Plush. **BEST WAY.** We send one of the above complete assortment lots FREE as a reward to all who send 35 cents for 15-months subscription to "COMFORT," the best Home Monthly now published, and in order to get you to advertise "COMFORT" and this big bargain to your friends and neighbors, we will send free with each package, our great book "With Eight Full-Page Illustrations for ornamenting the seams of Crazy Patchwork," or for other ornaments, work where Fancy Stitches are used, it has no equal. It shows how pieces for patchwork may be put together to get the best effect, how to cover up seams with fancy stitches, how to join edgings, etc. The book illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these, besides directions for taking ART EMBROIDERY, Ribbon Work, Plush, or Tufted Stitches, etc. It also tells how to do Kensington Patching. **REMEMBER** we send one big lot (over 100 pieces) of silk and satin, and a great book on embroidery together with 15-months subscription to "COMFORT," all for only 35 cents, or you may send two subscribers at 25c. each for 15 months and receive one lot free. Three lots and 15 mos. subscription, 65c.; five lots and subscription, for \$1.00. Address COMFORT Silk Dept. 4, Augusta, Maine.



FREE This Beautiful Monogram Dinner Set of 42 Pieces

Each Piece Decorated with your Initial in Gold. Positively the Biggest and Finest Dinner Set ever Given Away as a Free Present. Any Lady Can Earn this Set in a Few Hours' Time.

This beautiful Monogram Dinner Set, full size, for family use, consisting of 42 pieces just as shown, is a present that will bring delight to the heart of any housewife and can be had absolutely free of charge for a few hours' easy, pleasant work among your neighbors and the people of your vicinity. This set is made of finest Parisian china, is a pure delicate white and decorated with wild rose design in colors, with the edges traced in gold. It is a set of dishes that you will be proud to own and put on your table and show your friends.

Your own initial in pure gold will be on every piece except the cups and saucers. The set consists of six large plates, six dessert plates, six large cups and saucers, six small cups and saucers, six butter plates, two large vegetable dishes, one large platter, one cake plate, one bread plate, and one gravy bowl, making 42 separate pieces, positively the grandest array of dishes ever offered for this small amount of work.

Club Offer: For only 14 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, for fifteen months we will present you with one of these beautiful Monogram 42-Piece Dinner Sets. The set will be carefully packed and shipped by freight upon receipt of the club order. Remember only 14 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents for 15 months procure this Gold Decorated 42-Piece Initial Dinner Set. State what initial wanted when ordering. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I WILL PROVE FREE

My Ability to Cure YOU
By Sending a
Full Dollar Treatment
For Your Ailment
Absolutely Without Charge



My Free Offer to You

To you who suffer from any disease—need medical advice—are run down and wasted by suffering—I will send Free a Full Dollar Treatment for your case.

No matter what your ailment, how long you have suffered, what medicines you have taken; how long, how often or with what success others have treated you—no matter what your age or sex, who you are or where you live—this offer is intended for you and means every word it says, just as it is written.

This is a plain statement of facts backed by my honest desire to prove that I, as a Specialist in the treatment of all chronic diseases, can cure your trouble.

During my long years of practice I have proved to thousands of sufferers that my treatments for chronic diseases are more effective than other treatments. I shall not be satisfied until I have proved this same thing to thousands of others, which fortunately I can now afford to do at my own personal expense.

I do not ask you to take the word of the thousands I have cured. I do not ask you to take my word. I ask only that you allow me to fulfill the promise I now make to you—prove Free my ability to cure you by sending a Full Dollar Treatment for your ailment.

I will send this Full Dollar Treatment free and postpaid in a plain wrapper and will never expect or accept one cent from you in payment for it.

If you are tired and disgusted with promises and "word-proof," accept today this real proof I offer.

All You Need Do

If your disease is not mentioned in the coupon or if you are in doubt about it, write a short letter describing your symptoms in your own words. Send the coupon or your letter to Dr. Jas. W. Kidd, Ft. Wayne, Ind., and by return mail, sealed in plain wrapper, I will send you a Full Dollar Course of Treatment, my 192-page Book, and a personal letter of advice all absolutely Free and postage paid. You will be under no obligation to me in any way.

Why I Make This Offer

I have cured thousands of cases of Rheumatism, Kidney Trouble, Stomach Trouble, Liver and Bowel Disorders, Catarrh Bronchitis, Chronic Coughs, Weak Lungs, Lumbago, Piles, Urinary Disorders, Female Weakness and the other diseases mentioned on the coupon below.

I make this offer to you because I want every sick and suffering man and woman to know that my treatments are better than other treatments.

I make this free offer so you need not spend one cent more in your search for a cure. I want the sufferers of the world to learn how and where they may find a cure. If I did not have unbounded faith in the merits of my treatments I could not make such an offer to you through this paper—could not publish broadcast this offer to send free treatments.

I expect to distribute my dollar treatments free to ten thousand sick people. This means that I am willing to give away \$10,000.00 worth of my treatments, for no other purpose than to prove my ability to cure chronic diseases.

If my treatments are not all I claim for them, I shall lose not only a comfortable fortune but the reputation for cures—a reputation built up and sustained throughout my many years of successful practice. I could not afford to make this offer unless I were absolutely sure of the results of my treatments.

You have everything to gain—nothing to lose by accepting this offer of free treatment. Fill in, sign and mail the coupon today. Be among the first to receive these free gifts.

Home Medical Book Free

I have published a Medical Book—"The Ills of Humanity, Their Cause and Cure"—compiled for ready reference in the home—a book containing 192 pages of valuable professional information and private advice—the result of years of experience in the practice of medicine.

It is written in plain, simple language that anyone can read and understand and is well illustrated. So great has been the demand for this book that I have found it necessary to have it printed in English, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, Spanish, Italian and Bohemian. Every home should have a copy of this book and it should be read by every man and woman.

It tells about practically all diseases—gives their symptoms, their causes and how they may be cured—tells what to eat and what not to eat—how to prevent sickness and how a great many diseases may be cured at home, without a doctor.

It will benefit anyone, sick or well, to read this book, so I have provided ten thousand copies for distribution among readers of this announcement. Because I feel sure that everyone will wish to have this book in their home, I have included in the attached coupon a request for it and will send a copy free and postage paid with the treatment, to every ailing person who writes me or sends the coupon below.

If not otherwise requested, the English edition of this book will be sent to you.

CUT OR TEAR ON THIS LINE. WRITE NAME AND ADDRESS VERY PLAINLY

Coupon A.542 For Free Dollar Treatment

DR. JAMES W. KIDD, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

Please send me a Full \$1.00 Course of Treatment for my case, and your 192 page book, "The Ills of Humanity," all free and postage paid, just as you promise.

Name.....

Post Office.....

State.....

Street or R. F. D. No.....

Age..... How long afflicted?.....

Do you want my Special Book for Men?.....

If you wish, describe your case on a separate sheet. Correspondence answered in all languages.

Make a cross (X) before all diseases you have—two crosses (XX) before the one which you suffer most.

<input type="checkbox"/> Rheumatism	<input type="checkbox"/> Asthma
<input type="checkbox"/> Lumbago	<input type="checkbox"/> Hay Fever
<input type="checkbox"/> Catarrh	<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Trouble
<input type="checkbox"/> Neuralgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Circulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Impure Blood
<input type="checkbox"/> Dizziness	<input type="checkbox"/> Anemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Stomach Trouble	<input type="checkbox"/> Pimples
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigestion	<input type="checkbox"/> Eczema
<input type="checkbox"/> Constipation	<input type="checkbox"/> Obesity
<input type="checkbox"/> Piles	<input type="checkbox"/> Nervousness
<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhoea	<input type="checkbox"/> Female Weakness
<input type="checkbox"/> Torpid Liver	<input type="checkbox"/> Womb Trouble
<input type="checkbox"/> Malaria	<input type="checkbox"/> Ovarian Trouble
<input type="checkbox"/> Kidney Trouble	<input type="checkbox"/> Irregular Periods
<input type="checkbox"/> Bladder Trouble	<input type="checkbox"/> Painful Periods
<input type="checkbox"/> Weak Lungs	<input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Periods
<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Leucorrhoea